異世界帰りのおっさんは
volume. 1
THE SKILL OF PATERNITY
父性スキルでファザコン娘達をトロトロに
Takahashi Hiromu
高橋弘
あゆま紗由
illustration
OVERLAP

ISEKAI KAERI NO OSSAN WA, FUSEI SUKIRU DE FATHERCON MUSUME-TACHI O TORORORI NI

The Middle-aged Man who just Returned from Another World Melts his Fathercon Daughters with his Paternal Skill

- VOLUME 1 -
The Fallen Hero

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[Shujinkou Translations | Kuro Kurori's Lounge]

– STORY –

The strongest Hero in history, Nakamoto Keisuke.

He was summoned to another world in the spring at the age of fifteen years old, and when he successfully defeated The Demon King, he was already thirty-two years old. He had finished his role in another world and returned to Japan, but the reality that had been waiting for him was, “Middle school graduate with seventeen years of blank period” label. He couldn’t find a decent job and had no choice but to spend his days working part-time.

Before such a Nakamoto, a beautiful girl who self-proclaimed had come to return the favor, appeared. “I’m the reward for Hero who had defeated Demon King”, said Angelica, a girl who came from another world that persistently tempted Nakamoto to make her his wife. Together with a high school girl who looks like Elsa, his beloved girl that he lost in another world, Nakamoto with his cheats skills got caught in a harem life.

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神聖巫女——

生まれてすぐに親元から引き離され、
女だけが住む神殿で生涯を過ごす。
男との接触を禁じられた、**究極の処女**である。

「ふあっ……
こ、これがビデ……！」

神聖巫女16歳
アンジェリカ

「あたしのパンツ撮ったでしょ。
気付いてないと思った？」

「……いらっしゃいませ……中元さん」

本屋の一人娘 17歳
大槻綾子（おおつきあやこ）

イマドキのJK 16歳
斎藤理緒（さいとうりお）

異世界帰りの勇者(中卒)
なかもとけいすけ
中元圭介 32歳

RIO
『年上の彼氏募集中』
▶既読

こいつの中では
少女漫画かもしれないが、
こっちは犯罪ドキュメントが
始まってる。

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【アンジェリカのひとりおべんきょうかい】

CHAPTER 1
THE HERO'S END

I've done something irreparable.

There should have been another way to do it, but I had chosen the worst possible path.

That's right. I certainly saved the world. I was called the strongest hero in history. I killed the demon king single handedly.

But there were too many things I had lost.

So this might be a punishment given to me.

◊ ◊ ◊

Today, I also wash the dishes while being scolded by the store manager. No matter how many times I've done this, he will always find a fault or two in me.

"YOU REALLY ARE USELESS, Nakamoto!"

"I'm sorry."

"This is because you're a former shut-in… I guess people like you could even kill their parents, right? You will go and do it at one point in time."

He spat out sarcasm with a voice loud enough for everyone inside the store to hear.

A shut-in? I couldn't deny it.

If you look at the blank area in my resume, everyone would interpret it that way.

My background was rather unique. Because at the age of fifteen, I was summoned to another world. It was the so-called Medieval Europe Fantasy-esque world of sword and magic. In addition, it was in a strange space-time with a game-like system.

I spent the past 17 years in that land. Teens to twenties, I dedicated myself for adventuring, and before I noticed it, I was already 32 years old.

This was a story of last year, I went through such a long journey and I successfully defeated the demon king at last. Speaking of what happened after that, I returned to Japan.

“This is enough. Thanks for the hard work. Hero-sama should return home.”

It was more or less like that, a sort of lukewarm parting. I returned to Japan with a snap.

◊ ◊ ◊

I thought it was a dream at first. Naturally, my parents were very surprised when they saw me suddenly appear in front of the house.

Well, of course. If their son who had disappeared for a long time showed his face for the first time in seventeen years, it would be normal to jump up.

“You were alive!?” and “Where have you been!?”

Those words came out of my mother and my father’s mouths. Well, that kind of thing happened.

The priests told me that they were going to manipulate the memories of those in my world before sending me back to Japan.

It seemed that the years and months when I was traveling as an adventurer in an another world, was changed to the recognition that **“I was being a shut-in inside my house”**.

While my memory stayed as it was, the memory of the people around me were tampered to be like that.

I didn’t know how they did it, but it was convenient for me… No, that might have been an unnecessary care. I meant, it was related to my background…

“Nakamoto Keisuke, 32 years old. Middle school graduate with no work experience, and a former shut-in”.

Because of this, I couldn't find a decent job. It will be almost a year since I've returned to Japan, and I'm still making a living from part-time jobs.

Just like this time, I'm working in the ramen shop in front of the train station.

When I was in the other world, I cut the orcs (that humanoid-pig-monster) using a holy sword with a slash-slash. But now, I cut roasted pork with a Chinese kitchen knife. I'm indeed good at cutting pigs, but this and that are two entirely different things.

Sometimes, I wasn't sure of myself. I wondered if I was simply having a long dream, and if everything about the hero stuff was just a delusion. The real me was in my parents' house and was sleeping all the time.

But I could still see the status window floating in my field of vision and I could still use magic as well. If I was serious, I could even lift a truck using my fingers. Both my skills and my physical abilities were no different from when I was in the other world.

I'm quite sane and I'm a hero (former).

If possible, I wished I could go back to normal when I returned to Japan. Now I'm too strong and it's difficult to adjust my strength. I need to pay close attention so I could act within the range of an ordinary person. It was a terribly restrained life. Thanks to dropping and splitting the dishes, I was known as a clumsy clerk.

Different from a cute girl, it was just unacceptable for an uncle older than 30 to have such a trait.

If they were in the category of my "owned items", I could just grant them enhancement magic. If I increase their durability with magic, they won't break even if I handle it roughly. I did that to my own belongings but the dishes here were the property of the shop. So, because I couldn't strengthen it, this kind of situation happened.

I left the house just to be an annoying destroyer. None of the work lasts long.

I'm nothing right now. The majesty of a hero or the likes, not even fragments were left.

I'm at the bottom of society.

But I deserve it.

Because I'm a sinner.

When I think of what I did in that world, I have to keep on making amends forever.

"——Hero-sama, you can finally beat the demon king with this, right? Our lives are not wasted, are they?"

Apologizing to the voice that resonated inside my head, I finished today's work.

Two broken dishes. It was the smallest record ever.

CHAPTER 2
THE APPEARANCE OF ELSA

By the time I left the store, it was already past 06:00 pm. For a restaurant, it was the busiest time and it would normally require as much manpower as possible. But recently, my working shift has been blatantly reduced so I tend to go home at peak times. I'm a useless clerk after all.

(I wonder if I'm going to get fired from here soon…)

I walked down the street while breathing out white air. The air in January was cold.

—early in the new year, the atmosphere was rejecting me with full power. The town that has also forgotten my existence.

Unfamiliar signs. Unknown chain stores. The popular song that I had never heard before, was playing in the neighborhood.

Everything that I saw was a foreign object, all those sounds entering my ears were uncomfortable.

I felt that I didn't belong here. No, it wasn't just a feeling. I indeed didn't belong here.

The world had completely changed when I was in another world. I was a teenager who departed from Japan in 2000 and came back in 2017. I was in Urashima Taro's kind of situation.

I heard that cellular phones were becoming as good as personal computers. I heard that GDP had overtaken China. I heard about a nuclear power plant accident, and so on…

Have I returned to another different world?

It's not my hometown.

There is no one who knows my success.

I'm all alone.

The only salvation for me was a smartphone. There was an application called a social game that has become the main support of my heart. Whenever I had spare time, I would be busy tapping my smartphone until I had run out of stamina (in-game).

From my point of view, I was amazed that I could play the contents of a game-station-level game on a mobile device.

The charge-inducing games that had gotten excessively intense these days, made me a little interested. I guess the game industry was also desperately trying to survive.

Huh, what am I? Worrying about such a big enterprise when I live desperately myself. Well, I guess there is nothing wrong with that.

I'm getting tired of thinking about myself. I will put my future on the shelf, I just want to randomly talk about politics on the Internet forums, or I'd like to spend my money on a game, and so on.

If I seriously look for work, I guess my physical ability could do a lot. But it's impossible for me now. My spirit has withered. I have no right to do something big.

Sorry, Elsa.

I couldn't save you.

I killed you.

Here, I will live in misery to atone for it.

Therefore, please forgive me.

I will continue to hurt myself from now on.

When I think about the crime I had committed in that world, my vision still gets blurry. However, if there is an uncle who suddenly bursts into tears on the street, the people in the surroundings will be weirded out.

(Not good. I need to go to a place with fewer people.)

I rushed into a nearby building in a panic. I couldn't see well because of the tears, but from the noise of electronic sounds, I could guess that I just entered a gaming center.

It was a suitable place for me. Nobody would care about an uncle playing a game here alone.

I sat down at the game table of the fighting action game in the corner, and took out a smartphone from my pocket. For a change, I launched my favorite application.

[Idol Maker ~ Princess Live!]

The title call started with a cheerful anime voice. It was a rhythm game to produce a beautiful girl that aims for the top idol. This was the use of my salary. This was how I contributed to the society.

I saw this app in the ranking sales, immediately after I purchased a smartphone. To tell you the truth, I also saw a lot of medieval fantasy-style RPG games. Or rather, it was the most popular genre out there.

I just couldn't bring myself to play it at all, because until last year, I was really in that kind of world, cutting and killing monsters. I was just sick of it.

Also, the way the game character holds the sword was wrong, you wouldn't be able to cut the opponent properly. I had become like this, so it wasn't possible for me to enjoy that kind of game. I wondered if a veteran soldier who watched a movie about war would also have this kind of feeling.

Compared to that, the sight of the world which is unrelated to myself, the sight of polygon model idols was more soothing to my heart.

"……how cute!"

Accompanied by the sound of tapping and clicking, I gently stared at the screen.

The girls with long, black hair were dancing cheerfully. They moved their slender bodies hard, and invited me to charge more.

There were a lot of black haired girls with slender bodies, so I couldn't help but became irritated.

The idols I organized in units inside the game, all looked like Elsa somewhere.

She also had beautiful black hair and a slim body shape.

Longing for a girl who I could never meet again, it seemed I had unconsciously sought her figure inside the game.

It was truly miserable, and stupid.

"……shit!"

What's wrong with that? Of course I couldn't forget her!! —while making excuses to myself, I pressed the side of my smartphone for a few seconds.

"click"—with a snapping sound, the fixed pose of the idols was preserved.

You should look at these pictures when you're feeling down. Their cuteness can turn the gloomy feelings into something green and refreshing. I wonder how this picture was taken? When I flipped the screen of my smartphone—

"Hey, Uncle!"

—I was called from behind.

It was the voice of a young woman. however, her voice had a threatening tone to it.

Did she call me? I turned my face in the direction of the voice reflexively.

"……Elsa?"

I doubted my eyes.

Because in front of me, there was the girl from another world, who I loved with all my heart.

Because there was the girl that I had killed with these hands.

Straight black hair stretched to her waist. On her well-proportioned face, light make-up was applied. From her blazer that went down a little, a glimpse of her modest valley could be seen.

Yes, it was a uniform.

She was not her.

She was a stranger that resembled her.

When I was taken aback, the high school girl that resembled Elsa, raised her voice again.

“You saw my panties a while ago and took a picture. Did you think I didn’t notice it?”

However, it was amazing. Although she was Japanese, among all the people I’ve seen so far, she looked like a person from that world the most. I was admiring her unintentionally.

She was a beautiful girl of an incredible level. Even if she aimed to be an actress or idol, that was not something impossible. She would become one in a flash. If I was a producer from an entertainment business or something, I’d give her my business card right away.

“Are you listening to me? Creepy Uncle!”

While I was having a thought trip, the black-haired high school girl raised her voice even more. It was a bad habit that I picked up from the other world. I got used to the roar of dragons and ogres so human shouting sounded like the cry of crickets to me.

But even if you don’t talk in a loud voice, I… eh, is she angry now? I just realized it.

“Do you need something from me?”

“You took a picture of my panties with your smartphone, right? I know it immediately”

“Of course not. Look, I was just playing a game!”

I showed the screen of my smartphone to the high school girl who was fuming.

What would you think when you see an uncle playing a game where beautiful girls are dancing and shaking their chests? The girl’s reaction was:

“Gross!”

It was expressed in a single word. Even in 2017, there was a bad compatibility between Otaku culture and young girls after all.

This was the Japan that I know. It wasn’t a nice situation no matter how I think about it, but I felt a little relieved to find something still unchanged.

While I was reminiscing over the old days, a group of high school students came from around the photo booth corner. There were five boys and two girls.

Every one of them has brown or blonde hair and piercings on their ears or nose. Everyone wore sloppy uniforms without exception.

Rather than returning from school, they seemed to have come straight from the delinquent course. They had that kind of air.

“What’s wrong, Rio?”

“He was secretly taking my picture. Or maybe not, but I don’t care because this uncle is an Otaku. He must be up to something bad.”

“Seriously? What a bastard.”

(I see. This high school girl is called Rio. Isn’t it your name cute? It suits you well.)

Of course, even with this happy thought, I understand the situation that I’m in. It seems the act similar to that badger game is about to begin.

I nodded when I’ve decided my next course of action.

When I was in the other world, I killed cyclops with my bare hands and turned them into barbeque ingredients. So it was impossible for mere high school students to give

me a fright.

Did he get fed-up with my calm attitude? The conspicuously large-built man grabbed my shoulder roughly. He was a boy with villain-like eyes and had piercings all over his face.

(Are you mistaking your face with a piercing holder? That's not a place to play with holes.)

"Let's go out for a bit, Uncle. How about behind this building?… come quickly!"

The boy who had piercings all over his face, prompted me with his jaws. This wasn't an atmosphere which could be solved with a talk.

It can't be helped. Let's run wild for the first time in a while. I cracked my neck.

But before that, let's confirm their strengths.

"……Status Open."

CHAPTER 3
LION HUNTING

I called up a status window by muttering in a low voice. In an instant, a semi-transparent rectangle jumped into sight. The detailed specifications of the boy who was scowling at me were listed on it.

- Name : Saitou Shishiou
- Level : 1
- Class : High School Boy
- HP : 100
- MP : 0
- Attack : 115
- Defense : 110
- Dexterity : 100
- Magic : 0
- Magic Defense : 80
- Skill : none
- Remark : He could care less about his gaudy name. But if you make fun of it, he will go berserk.

You… Did you turn wild because of your name? I feel sympathy, but, this is hilarious. *(Note: Shishiou = 'Shishi' : Lion + 'Ou' : King)*

Speaking of which, the ability value of an average adult man is around 100. Considering that, it can be said that he's a modern Japanese person with strength.

However, he's picking a fight with a wrong opponent. I don't mean to brag but my status is as follows:

- Name : Nakamoto Keisuke
- Level : 227
- Class : Hero, Ramen Shop Clerk
- HP : 55060
- MP : 42110
- Attack : 52390

- Defense : 45680
- Dexterity : 45000
- Magic : 51940
- Magic Defense : 51770
- Skill : Language Comprehension, Status Appraisal, Nutritional Management, Combo, Mind's Eyes, The Art of Law, Paternity.
- Remark : The former hero who once paid a great price to save an another world and was trapped in guilty consciousness.

Far from trying not to lose, this was a question of how far I could go without killing them. The difference in our power, it was like comparing a dinosaur to an ant. Our basic specifications as creatures were simply too different. Trying not to crush them under my foot was the best thing I could do.

"Hey, why are you smiling alone? "

I came back to my senses when the boy with the lion name spoke. My mouth had apparently loosened and formed a smile unconsciously. My body might be itching for fight after so long.

(Nice, I was just getting irritated.)

My mind was always under pressure so as not to break the dishes when I was working. I wanted to run wild once in a while. I was about to hit my limit soon.

I left the game center surrounded by a group of high school students. They almost looked like my bodyguards. But in reality, the hunter was being guarded by the prey, how ridiculous.

"How far should I follow?"

King Leo Boy and his group ignored my words and kept walking silently. The high school girl called Rio was also following.

Leo and Rio, huh? Come to think of it, both of their names are lion-ish. I wonder if the two are going out —I thought.

After walking for about two minutes, at a corner surrounded by a wire mesh fence and hidden from public sight, their feet stopped. It was just around the back door of the arcade, **The Lion's Turf**.

While I was observing the surroundings, King Leo Boy, who was walking at the front, turned around.

“So, how much do you have?”

It seemed that whether or not I had anything was of no consequence to him. He threatened me while shoving his hands into my pockets, right away.

“If you become our ATM on a regular basis, I won’t tell the police.”

There are various things I want to point out. First of all, I don’t have money, I haven’t done any kind of voyeurism, and I’m not afraid of the police. And this is the most important thing, your name is too interesting, so I don’t feel tense at all.

I don’t give a shit about the police —I want to shout it out in a musical style.

“Do you always earn pocket money like this? The wisdom of living in the savanna, that kind of thing?”

“Haah?”

“King Leo, I see you’re eager to hunt even though you’re a male.”

“Hey, who the hell told this old man my name!? Rio?”

Rio winced and shook her head when her name was suddenly called.

(The way they interact, I guess the two aren’t in a boyfriend-girlfriend relationship. Well, it’s not like I care.)

I’ll rile him up a little more for the sake of reducing my guilty conscience. Because right now, I’m going to destroy the face of this high school student.

“I’ll kill you!!”

King Leo grabbed my lapels.

If I don’t look at my opponent’s face, it feels like I’m fighting against a monster. I can’t help but feel amused.

“Don’t laugh!!”

A blow from his knee landed on my abdomen.

Good. With this, it will be a legitimate self-defense act. It’s wonderful that he acted first. No matter what is said, you’ll need a just cause to use the power you wield. For the sake of saving the world or whatever.

“This is to protect myself, I guess?”

“Huh?”

“You used violence on me. Because of that, I will reluctantly fight back with violence too.”

“What nonsense have you been spouting since a while ago—guubuhhh!?”

A great deal of white gravel flew out after I shot an uppercut with my left hand. The true identity of that white gravel was King Leo’s teeth.

A clean and direct hit connected to his lower jaw. The inside of his mouth must be a mess.

Even though he was given a name related to a lion, he wouldn’t be able to eat something solid like meat for the time being. He would enjoy life as an herbivore animal while sipping rice gruel.

“Ughh… cough… cough… cough…”

I wondered what the other guys think about their companion who is holding his mouth while crouching down. Would they help? Would they jump at me together?

There were still four boys and three girls left. The other side still has the advantage in numbers, huh? I taunted them again in a light tone.

The provocation was successful; two blond boys jumped at me together.

I concentrated my consciousness and activated a skill. Horizontal windows and strings of characters were displayed in my field of view.

<Hero Keisuke exercises Mind's Eyes skill. 50% increase in avoidance rate and accuracy.>

<While using the skill, 2 MP will be consumed every second.>

The world slowed down in an instant. It wasn't like I was manipulating time or anything. My kinetic vision and cognitive abilities were just being boosted at an accelerated pace.

Their fists were approaching me from the left and the right. I stretched out my hands, caught them, and twisted them. With a cracking sound, their arms bent in a strange direction.

" "ARRRRGGGG……" "

While listening to their screams, I terminated the skill. The flow of time returned to normal. It was just an elementary level technique in the other world. But when doing this here, it feels like seeing the future a few seconds ahead.

"Do you still want to continue?"

The answer to this question never came. Instead, it was pessimistic whining that sounded from their mouths.

"Crap, he must be doing martial arts or something!"

"Run! Let's run away!"

"Let's go… Don't come! Don't come here! Hihyaaaaa!!!!!"

The group of high school students ran away like scattering baby spiders. The only people who remained were King Leo, who was unconscious, and Rio, who fell on her butt while trembling.

"……the strong bond between delinquents, I guess it's just fiction."

Leaving their injured friend and this girl behind without hesitation. In both the other world and this one, everything is the same: people tend to think only about themselves in an emergency situation.

I approached King Leo who was lying on the ground while convulsing, and casted automatic recovery magic. If left like this, his wound would gradually heal over time. I thought it was better for him to have some painful experiences.

It wouldn't be good if I cured him immediately. In a week or so, his new teeth should be grown. He needs to reflect on his actions until then.

Too soft, as expected of a former hero…

No, not that. I judged that if I left too many after-effects, it would come back to bite me later. I simply destroyed the evidence.

Even if I'm not afraid of the police, I don't want to get caught in something troublesome.

"What are you going to do?"

I turned my gaze to Rio because the first aid had been completed.

She was sitting on her butt with her legs splayed open, and her skirt was rolled up so its contents could be seen. In addition, a small puddle was formed between her crotch. The smell of ammonia reached my nose.

"D-Don't come… D-Don't come here…"

Looking at her figure that was weakly dragging herself away to escape, even I felt sorry for her. I silently took out my smartphone and tapped the gallery icon. The images saved from the games and the photos I had taken with the camera so far, were all there.

Rio had an expression which seemed to say that she couldn't understand what I was trying to do, but I explained it gently while showing her the screen.

"Can you see it? There are only pictures of scenery and screenshots from the game I played. Do you see a photo of your underwear?"

Her lips quivered.

"This is a misunderstanding. I'm not a peeping tom. I hope you understand."

"……"

"Do you hear me?"

The half-crying high school girl nodded her head up and down. I felt like I was attacked by an unseen weapon.

It was the bad aftertaste of a fight.

<Nakamoto Keisuke has won the battle!>
<+2 EXP points>
<+1 skill point>

"Shut up!"

I closed the insensitive window message and turned back.

What's the point of getting stronger now? Even though there is no enemy I need to defeat…

Experiencing values like garbage, the uncomfortable feeling left in my hands, and tears of a high school student who looks like someone I love.

This is not something I'm looking for.

Let's go home.

There is nothing that pleases me in this city.

CHAPTER 4
COMPENSATION

I climbed the stairs of my apartment while generating a rhythmic sound. I was living alone in this place. I got around ¥100,000 each month from my part-time job, so it was a pretty tough life. With ¥30,000 I received from my parents monthly, I managed to live my current life.

Yeah, that was my allowance. It's embarrassing, but I still receive assistance from my parents, even though I'm supposed to be 33 this year.

I said that I would like to be independent as soon as I returned to Japan, so they offered their support.

From my parents' point of view, their son who was a shut-in for 17 years suddenly decided to return to society. No wonder they were so motivated to support me.

I felt grateful but I also felt miserable at the same time. I wished I could be economically self-reliant soon, but I didn't even have enough energy to live.

(It can't be helped. I want to die. I don't want to think about anything.)

Scraps. Less than human. Loser.

I turned the key of my apartment while repeating various verbal abuses inside my head.

This is my home.

A ragged apartment built 27 years ago, with nothing good about it except its cheap rent. To make it worse, there was a commotion about ghost appearances in the neighborhood recently.

If anything else, even this kind of ragged apartment was still better than me. Twenty-seven years old. You could still call it young if you were talking about a human. I even felt jealous towards an inanimate object. I entered the room while ridiculing myself.

Then, from the veranda, dressed in a see-through gown, a girl with blond hair and blue eyes walked over.

“Welcome home, Hero-sama!”

I was hugged. There was a soft sensation… and my head stopped working for a moment. I came back to my senses and frantically left the room.

“Just now, what was that?”

1. A ghost?
2. A foreigner thief?
3. A hallucination?

Well, it must be number 2. I heard lot of foreigners came to Japan while I was away. These days, you would see that almost all the convenience store clerks were Chinese.

“No, wait a second…”

My head cooled down after some time.

“That girl, did she just call me Hero? Then, is she related to that world?”

I entered the room in a hurry and found that the girl was sitting on her knees.

“Congratulations, Hero-sama! You received compensation, that is, me!”

I turned my attention towards a self-proclaimed compensation-girl while locking the door behind me. She was a girl who looked to be between the ages of fifteen and seventeen.

Her age alone had made me feel uneasy, and in addition to it, she was also sporting a face of superior beauty. I couldn’t say a lot because it was too dark, but her facial features were too distinct compared to the Japanese.

I often saw similar people in that world, that looked like a combination of Westerners and Asians, or perhaps similar to Eastern Europeans. The overall skin color was still lighter than a pure blood Caucasian, though.

The girl had shoulder-length golden hair and emerald green eyes. Her radiant white skin made her look like a celestial being.

The last and the most important thing. Because she wore clothes made from a thin

fabric, I could see many things. Like her underwear and so on. Thanks to her body line, something was made clear. How should I explain this, she was a well-developed girl.

Even though she had a rather delicate figure, a certain part was bulging wonderfully. Her height was probably a little over 150 centimeters, what an unbalanced way of growing up.

Unbalanced economic development.

Developing countries that had put an emphasis on only two domes.

A dairy exporters' powerhouse.

The phrases whose meanings were unknown came to me one after another. I wondered what I was thinking?

Puzzled upon seeing me take off my shoes inside the room, the blonde girl quickly stood up. Then, she put her hands on her big bust and loudly declared.

"I'm Angelica, a Sacred Shrine Maiden. I believe you know about this position at least." (Angelica)

I'd heard of it. In that world, they were the so-called Goddess' officials. However, they were not simply priestesses. The severity of their commandments were a little, or rather, excessive, to a considerable degree.

Single for life. Growing up while completely cut off from all men. The baby chosen as the Sacred Shrine Maiden would be separated immediately from her parents after being born, and be confined in a temple where only women reside. Both her clothes and her food could only be made by women's hands. Conversation with a man was forbidden. They would maintain their purity until their life span came to end, and it was believed that they would serve as a maid of God after death.

The ultimate virgin devoted to God only. That was the figure called a Sacred Shrine Maiden.

That kind of famous person was talking fluently with me (who's a man), while clinging to me with a happy face that seemed to be almost drooling. It could be said that it was an abnormal situation. Well, since I returned to Japan, various thing went wrong.

“Yeah, I know. I understand what Hero-sama is thinking. This is the first time I’ve ever talked to a man.”

“Really?”

“Men really have a low voice. It feels like the air is trembling and it’s somewhat fun.”

While saying it was fun, Angelica, who was supposed to be famous as the ultimate virgin, touched my abdomen and my chest repeatedly.

“It’s stiff. It’s totally different from girls.” (Angelica)

I felt like I was just taught an unnecessary piece of knowledge from a girl of high school age.

“……please give me an explanation first. I don’t really understand this situation.”

“You are right. I shall tell you step by step.”

She entangled her arms with mine in one deft movement, like a girl working in a night shop.

“Chief, how about a cup with me? Don’t worry, it’s cheap.” —the atmosphere seemed to be telling me.

She lets her guard down too much. I wondered if it was because she grew up inside an environment where her safety was guaranteed.

“Even though Hero-sama has saved our world, you were sent back to your own world without receiving compensation. The King and Chief Priest were very concerned about this matter, and were discussing how to thank you every single day.” (Angelica)

“How does that relate to you?” (Nakamoto)

“There is a relation, and it’s a big one. After plenty of discussion, it seems that they had come to the conclusion of giving me, a nice and healthy girl, as compensation.”

With both of her hands on her waist, Angelica straightened her back, which made her two hills bounce.

I didn't know where to look so I tried to discern the situation while looking away.

(In other words, you are a living offering? Are you fine with that? You don't mind being treated like an object!?)

"…it's been a year and they finally decided to give me compensation?" (Keisuke)

"There was that incident in the process of Hero-sama defeating the demon king, remember? If I may speak, it was quite a special case. Because of that, it seems that you couldn't be recognized as the Hero of Salvation immediately." (Angelica)

"Certainly, there was that incident…" (Keisuke)

"Many sacrifices also occurred… *How about we execute the hero?* —there were also people who voived that." (Angelica)

"Those ungrateful people." (Keisuke)

So, in the end, the apology was sent to me in the form of Angelica.

I didn't know what to do with her who kept clinging to me. I mean, as someone who had no experience interacting with men, she was strangely over-familiar with me.

Oh, I got it! Those who have a little opportunity to get in contact with the opposite sex, would be either curious or afraid when meet one, and she seemed to be the former case.

"Let's assume that you're a gift for me… So, in what kind of meaning were you sent here?" (Keisuke)

"Excuse me?" (Agelica)

"I mean, are you here to be my servant? Or are you here for a different purpose?" (Keisuke)

"Oh…" (Angelica)

Immediately, Angelica came approaching me with a mischievous smile on her face. Two people fell, creating a thumping sound.

“Of course, for that kind of meaning, Keisuke-sama.” (Angelica)

“Like I said, what kind of meaning is that? Also, why did you suddenly call me by my name?” (Keisuke)

“Because I wanted to try it.” (Angelica)

A sweet smell peculiar to young girls tickled my nostrils. The kind of fragrance that you couldn’t tell if it was body odor, perfume, or **shampoo**. No, there was no shampoo in that world. So, soap?

(What I am thinking? I couldn’t care less about the identity of the smell. There must be a reason for her to act this way. That’s right, I shouldn’t think of useless things. I must not get distracted by her.)

Angelica sighed while I was mumbling alone. Her feverish breath hit my face.

“From today on, I’m your wife, Hero-sama.” (Angelica)

CHAPTER 5
TO COME ROUND

I asked the sacred shrine maiden who showed a bright captivating smile, a question while flinching.

“H-How old are you…? In this country, women can’t marry unless they’re at least sixteen years old.” (Keisuke)

“What a coincidence! I just turned sixteen last month, so there’s no problem.” (Angelica)

“That’s right! Even if you’re sixteen years old, you’re still a minor and need permission from your guardian to get married! You have no guardians in this world so no one will give it.” (Keisuke)

To a person who knows law, there would be many holes to be found in this logic. In this case, it was good thing because the opponent was her.

In the first place, it didn’t make any sense to suddenly be told to marry someone from another world. A foreigner who didn’t have a family registration and an ID card wouldn’t pass the marriage system.

“Then, how about having Hero-sama become my guardian?” (Angelica)

She said nonchalantly.

“Guardian…? Me? You mean, become your foster father?” (Keisuke)

“Yes. Since I’ve never seen my father’s face, I’ve wanted to know what it’s like to have a father since a long time ago. In the temple, there were many nannies and mother figures, but there was no father figure.” (Angelica)

“Oh, I see… Okay, starting from today, we are parent and child. Are you satisfied?” (Keisuke)

“Yeah!” (Angelica)

“Then, don’t cling to me.” (Keisuke)

“Eeh～” (Angelica)

I pushed Angelica aside and got up.

“A father and a daughter shouldn’t do this kind of thing. Do you understand?” (Keisuke)

“I don’t understand. As a father, Hero-sama has the authority to allow me to get married, so there’s nothing else that prevents us from getting married, no?” (Angelica)

“As if such a devilish father exists!” (Keisuke)

“Why can’t we get married? We are a father and daughter that are not related by blood, so there’s no problem, is there?” (Angelica)

I shook my head.

“I want to have a baby from Father.” (Angelica)

“That’s absurd!” (Keisuke)

Angelica sat quietly while hugging her knees. Her lips pouted while her face showed dissatisfaction.

“Besides… I love Hero-sama.” (Angelica)

“That’s a lie. We just met a moment ago.” (Keisuke)

I thought about what kind of rebuttal she would come up with this time, but she said nothing. Instead, her face turned sorrowful and she fell silent.

(What’s with that wounded reaction?… are you serious?)

I suddenly thought I had just made a terrible mistake.

While I was panicking, Angelica spoke softly while looking into the air.

“I volunteered myself.” (Angelica)

Her voice wavered and her body trembled.

“Last month, we were asked if there was someone among the sacred shrine maidens who could be married to Hero-sama. Six sacred shrine maidens volunteered. Further judgement was made and the most suitable candidate was sent. That’s me.” (Angelica)

Her body stopped trembling.

“When volunteering yourself, have you ever thought that you would be sent to my world? So, why…!?” (Keisuke)

“You are the hero who defeated the demon king.” (Angelica)

“Is this because of my strength?” (Keisuke)

“There was also that reason, but… I thought that I needed to help Hero-sama…” (Angelica)

Angelica paused.

“I meant, isn’t Hero-sama too pitiful? You saved our world at the cost of something dear to you. But after that, you were sent back home without receiving anything in return.” (Angelica)

“I see… pity, huh?” (Keisuke)

“Mou! You make it sound so bad.” (Angelica)

Angelica puffed up her cheeks and approached me on all fours. In the pose of a so-called female leopard, a pure white valley is visible from her cleavage.

“Hero-sama and I are the same.” (Angelica)

“The same?” (Keisuke)

“Natural disaster and disease; because people were afraid of these things, they offered babies to God. The sacred shrine maidens would never get in contact with men to keep their body pure, shackled for the rest of their life. In that way, sacred shrine maidens were used as objects to please God.” (Angelica)

The small hand of the girl touched mine.

“Hero-sama is the strength, while we are dedicating our chastity to the people. Our lives are used for others, and we are the sacrifices. So, what’s the difference?” (Angelica)

“—I’m happy. To be chosen as a sacrifice, it means that I’m your most beloved woman, right?”

The word “sacrifice” brought back my memories of Elsa.

I’m a sacrifice. The hero is a sacrifice for the masses. —I had convinced myself that this was the way life, that’s couldn’t be helped, but…

“Together with me, why don’t we take back the life that has been crushed by everyone else?” (Angelica)

Angelica’s fingers caressed my cheek.

“Let’s get revenge to soothe our hearts… Being happier than those people and regaining our true selves.” (Angelica)

“True… self…” (Keisuke)

“I was quite scared before I met Hero-sama. I wondered what kind of person Hero-sama was. But, it’s okay now… Hero-sama is cuter than I thought. You have eyes that look very lonely. It seems you can’t forget about Elsa-san yet.” (Angelica)

Slowly, she put her soft lips to mine. They were soft, damp, and moist lips that would be enough to ignite lust.

However, it has a reversed effect. It was a big mistake to say Elsa’s name in front of me. I felt my emotions rapidly getting colder.

The only woman that I ever loved…

The woman I killed…

…is not YOU!!

I gently grabbed her shoulder and pushed her away.

“Let’s stop this.” (Keisuke)

CHAPTER 6
STARTING AS PARENT AND CHILD

I stared at her jade-colored eyes, and wordlessly reprimanded her actions.

“You probably don’t understand your own feelings right now.” (Keisuke)

“……I’m not a child!” (Angelica)

“But to me, you are. Grudge towards those who pushed the status of a sacred shrine maiden to you, the curiosity towards men in general, the admiration towards the hero figure, a wish for paternal love, and pity. These emotions mixed up chaotically, and were mistaken as love.” (Keisuke)

“……th-that’s not true.” (Angelica)

“But you faltered as soon as I pointed it out.” (Keisuke)

Angelica casted her eyes down while biting her lower lip. There was no trace of the ‘little devil’ expression from a while ago. She continued to look down while slightly trembling. Before long, clear drops of water streamed down her cheeks toward her chin.

I wondered if she was hurt or if she felt something in my words.

But I didn’t know. I couldn’t tell. I didn’t know what she would think at such a time. That much, I didn’t know.

“You’re still sixteen… You should explore the various possibilities ahead of you.” (Keisuke)

To Angelica, who was shaking her head with both hands covering her face, I spoke as gently as possible.

“Let’s wait until you’ve grown up. If you still hold that feeling towards me, I’ll consider it again. Right now it is still too early to decide.” (Keisuke)

“Age doesn’t matter…” (Angelica)

Angelica murmured in a tearful voice that suited her age.

“Look at the various things in this world, meet a variety of people, and think about it again. Perhaps, you will even meet and fall in love with someone around your age.” (Keisuke)

“Does this mean, that I am being rejected?” (Angelica)

“That’s not the case. I simply don’t want to take advantage of the confusion in your heart.” (Keisuke)

Though the biggest reason was that I couldn’t think about other women besides Elsa.

I had the wisdom to not say it outright.

Because I’m an uncle.

Because I’m a dirty adult.

Unlike you.

“Do you hear me? Anyway, I don’t know how to send you back to that world so I don’t mind if you want to live here with me. For the time being, why don’t we start as parent and child? Just think of it as a trial run, for you and for me.” (Keisuke)

“Trial…?” (Angelica)

“The relationship between a father and daughter may turn out to be unexpectedly good, and you won’t demand any further. It’s not going to be a joke if we start a relationship between a man and a woman but later you realize it’s just a filial love towards a father figure. For a girl who’s going out with an older man, it seems such cases happen a lot.” (Keisuke)

“I’m different!!” (Angelica)

She was acting like a pubescent girl. The feeling to protect her sprung up inside me. It seemed like a lie; I was conscious of her as a woman a while ago.

That's right…! Although only for a while, I was looking at her as a woman. An undisputed fact. Shit, that's a crime.

Hiding it or being honest, which one is the right answer? If I keep silent, it's the same as declaring that she has no charm as a woman. But if I'm being honest, it's going to turn bad if I don't follow through completely.

I put my hand on her shoulder and then spoke while pretending to be casual.

"Umm… Even I was fond of such a cute girl, so I felt happy about it. To be honest, I thought my heart would stop." (Keisuke)

The sacred shrine maiden raised her face immediately.

"Re-really…!?" (Angelica)

"I would have fallen long ago if I was a teenager." (Keisuke)

"You may fall for me even if you aren't teenager anymore." (Angelica)

"That's not right." (Keisuke)

"Errr…" (Angelica)

"No!" (Keisuke)

I held down Angelica's forehead which was approaching me. I felt relieved because the atmosphere gradually loosened.

"From now on, I'm your guardian, so listen to what I say." (Keisuke)

"I will make you want to make me your wife before long…" (Angelica)

"I got it. I got it already. So, let's have a nice dinner and call it a day, because I'm really tired." (Keisuke)

"No way. I want to stay up late here, in this other world." (Angelica)

"You will not grow taller." (Keisuke)

"……" (Angelica)

She really was behaving like a child.

"Okay, let's make dinner. I will make fried dumplings (gyoza). It's delicious, though it will make your mouth smell a bit." (Keisuke)

"Is this an uncle-like dish?" (Angelica)

"Well, I guess so." (Keisuke)

I opened the refrigerator and took the frozen dumplings out. I'll make a meat and vegetable stir-fry side dish as well. Together with miso soup and rice, it would be enough to make your belly swollen.

I served Japanese-style food to someone from another world for a good reason. It was to see whether or not the flavors of this country would fit her taste. If her expression shows rejection, I will make Western-style food from tomorrow on.

(Thinking about it carefully, the cost of meals will be that for two people from now on…)

I wondered if we could really eat well with my earnings, and suddenly chickened out.

I thought about looking for a proper job soon. I need to feed a girl in her growth period well, so I couldn't continue to live a poverty-stricken life with the pretext of punishing myself.

Making use of the hero's specs, I could find a decent job if I properly look for it. Something like a fighter or a stuntman. I don't want to attract unnecessary attention, but I couldn't care less anymore.

I dropped my shoulders and started to make dinner.

"But Hero-sama, earlier, you were seriously worrying about me." (Angelica)

"Of course." (Keisuke)

"That kind of thing is unfair… That makes me like Hero-sama even more." (Angelica)

“Why!?” (Keisuke)

“So the dense Hero-sama also exists.” (Angelica)

“Was there two of Me here?” (Keisuke)

There was no trace of the sadness from before, and she was laughing cheerfully.

A girl with a good personality who doesn’t let her emotions drag her down after a heavy story.

She’s certainly not a bad girl.

So I want her to be happy.

She should be together with a good young man.

Someone other than me.

“Such a nice smell, is that garlic?” (Angelica)

Angelica, who was sniffing around, was so adorable, just like a cat.

(That’s right. She’s a cat in human shape. I will not make any mistake if I think like that.)

“I’m happy to have a father that’s good at cooking.” (Angelica)

“If you think of me as your father, I will make you help out with the housework from tomorrow on.” (Keisuke)

Angelica who finished her dinner, licked the plate clean. It seemed I was worried for nothing.

Japan has more complex seasoning compared to that world, but it doesn’t seem to be a problem. She has good taste in food.

It was indeed delicious. Eating dinner while talking to someone for the first time in a while, has a different taste.

Both her appearance and her temperament were the opposite of Elsa’s. I wondered if

I would be able to become a good father for her.

“Father, let’s make a child while we’re at it.” (Angelica)

“Keep silent and go to sleep!” (Keisuke)

I have no choice but to do it.

CHAPTER 7
THE PRICE OF SALVATION

"—I'm happy. To be chosen as a sacrifice, it means that I'm your most beloved woman, right?"

Please don't say such a thing, Elsa!

My life doesn't have any meaning unless you're there.

I became a hero because I wanted to protect you.

Just the two of us, let's run away to a distant place somewhere.

I don't give a shit about the demon king.

This kind of world should just fall to ruin.

Those people who wished to live while pushing that painful role onto you, I don't want to save them.

"—This is our fate. From the moment we met, it was decided that this would happen."

Why does it have to be you!?

You are my everything.

Why can't it be someone else?

Don't you remember how those people treated you?

Forget about them! You only need to think of your own happiness.

You should be more cunning and more selfish.

You have the right to live and be happy.

"—Hero-sama is such a bad liar. You wouldn't love me if I were such a cunning, selfish woman, right? You said it before, that you liked the me who worked hard for the others... Don't worry because... even if you can't see me anymore... I will be always by your side... for eternity..."

◊ ◊ ◊

"Elsa……" (Keisuke)

When I woke up, a familiar ceiling was there to greet me. A fluorescent lamp with a carcass of an insect stuck onto it, and its string which hung loosely. The clock on the wall showed that it was seven o'clock.

This is Japan, inside my apartment. It's not another world. Elsa, who was gently smiling at me, is nowhere to be found.

"That dream again, huh?" (Keisuke)

The dead body of a woman who couldn't move anymore was brought in front of me. The standard course of my nightmare.

I'm always crying in my sleep when I see this scene, and my face becomes a mess when I wake up.

"I have to wash my face." (Keisuke)

I crawled out of bed and headed for the bathroom. I stood in front of the sink with an unsteady posture.

Water came out vigorously as I twisted the faucet. Using both hands, I gathered and splashed it towards my face.

I raised my head. Looking into the mirror, there was a middle-aged man with swollen eyes. The unshaven beard has made my face look even worse.

(If Angelica sees me like this, I bet she will come to her senses.)

Suddenly, when I turned to the side while laughing a dark laugh, our eyes met.

Angelica was there, sitting on the toilet bowl, doing her business.

“Y-You were there…!?” (Keisuke)

The girl answered my murmur while flickering her green eyes.

“Yes, I am…” (Angelica)

I was suddenly lost for words.

(Now I’ve done it!!)

Just last night, I acted all high and mighty, lecturing her to be careful when entering the bathroom. How could I screw up myself?

In the room I occupied, the bathtub and toilet were packed in one place. Immediately after entering the bathroom, there was a bathtub on the right side and a toilet on the left side. In the center, sandwiched between the two, was a sink.

If men and women live together in such an environment, this kind of accident is bound to happen.

For example, if Angelica is taking a shower and I have the urge to use the toilet, and come running to the bathroom without confirming if she’s inside.

Or, if Angelica is sitting on the toilet with lowered underwear, and I use the sink to wash my face while half asleep.

Of course, I want to avoid such incidents from happening. Therefore, after I had dinner…

“While one of us is using the bathroom, try to stay away from the other party as much as possible. Promise me that!” (Keisuke)

I made the rule and broke it myself. I just set a bad example as a father.

“So-Sorry, I didn’t mean to peek.” (Keisuke)

She covered her crotch with both hands as her cheeks turned slightly red.

Her bare thighs were dazzling. Although her calves and her ankles were thin, they curved in the right places.

(Not good…)

I didn’t mean to observe them so thoroughly but my eyes couldn’t help but get drawn to them.

I tried to distract myself by turning my stiff neck away. I thought to remove her from my line of sight for the time being.

“…I do not mind if you want to see it, but please do show me yours later.” (Angelica)

“I mind it!!” (Keisuke)

I ran out of the bathroom in a panic. I could hear the sound of flushing water from the direction of the bathroom. I changed out of my pajamas while trying not to be conscious of Angelica. I also wanted to use the toilet, but I must hold it for a while.

I thought she was going to take her time, because last night—

“Ooh… So, this is a bidet…!!” (Angelica)

神聖巫女——

生まれてすぐに親元から引き離され、
女だけが住む神殿で生涯を過ごす。
男との接触を禁じられた、**究極の処女**である。

「ふあっ……
こ、これがビデ……！」

神聖巫女16歳
アンジェリカ

She has been like that since I taught her how to use the toilet last night. Every time she sat on the toilet, she would play with the button without any purpose.

It seems this morning, she's finally cautiously challenging the bidet function…

"She won't come out anytime soon, I guess. Should I go outside? On second thought, let's wait a little more." (Keisuke)

I thought of shaving my beard for the time being. While I was concentrating on my shaver, the sound of flushing water was heard once more. A little later, the sound of someone trotting approached.

"I expected no less of Hero-sama! That facility was made to take a bath while watching your partner peeing, right? I think Hero-sama is a genius." (Angelica)

I didn't need that kind of expectation. But looking at her sparkling eyes, I wondered if she was praising me from the heart.

Are you really a shrine maiden? I thought.

I wonder if those people actually sent a completely random shrine maiden here, so I used appraisal on her. The result: she was a real, full-fledged sacred shrine maiden, and quite strong at that.

- Name : Angelica
- Level : 30
- Class : Sacred Shrine Maiden
- HP : 600
- MP : 700
- Attack : 200
- Defense : 300
- Dexterity : 350
- Magic : 700
- Magic Defense : 720
- Skill : Language Comprehension, Sensing, The Art of Law, Fathercon (education)
- Remark : Curiosity and libido are strong, but has no experience with the opposite sex. She's targeting Keisuke Nakamoto's body.

It was pretty easy to understand. There was a somewhat scary part but I ignored it.

The status value required for a rearguard was over 700 across the board. This could be said to be excellent status distribution, and she was best suited to be the healer in a party.

However, it's a waste of a treasure in modern Japan. There's rare opportunity for fatal injury, and when that happens, there's a lot of medical personnel and facilities available.

Oh, but I might be able to use it for business by calling it 'Magical medical treatment!' or something. While modern medical treatments would leave scars, this would not. You could make easy money with it.

(…I guess that's a bad idea.)

If I do that, I'll be revered as a hero or a savior by the people in this world as well. I will stand out and troubles will also come following after me.

I've learned my lesson. In this world, I will pretend to be an ordinary person and live a peaceful life.

I stroked my chin and headed for the toilet while checking my newly shaved face.

"Sensing skill, huh? Good timing, let's ask her!" (Keisuke)

I went to look for Angelica after I finished washing my hands.

CHAPTER 8
YOU'RE ANGEL AND I'M FATHER

"Angelica, do you have a minute?" (Keisuke)

I raised my voice rather loudly since there was some distance between us.

"What is it!?" (Angelica)

Just like me, Angelica raised her voice slightly louder as well.

Oops, our voices might be heard by our neighbor —I just realized and reflected on it.

(It seems I'm still half-asleep. It's going to cause various problems if I do not wake up soon.)

There's a grumpy grandpa living next door. Though he's old, his hearing seems like it hasn't declined. If I set the volume of the television too loud, he'll protest by hitting the wall.

I washed my hands, dried them with a towel, went back to the living room, and sat down next to Angelica.

Because our neighbor was a noise-sensitive one, I lowered my voice and went back to the topic.

"If you can use your Sensing skill, there's something I'd like to ask." (Keisuke)

"Did you shave your beard? Such a waste, it was ticklish and fun." (Angelica)

Are you listening to me?

Why do you know how it feels?

Did you touch it while I was sleeping?

While feeling all kinds of uneasiness and doubt, I proceeded the talk.

“It’s going to be close to a week or so, there’s talk about a ghost sighting in the neighborhood. So, I’m wondering if you could check it for me.” (Keisuke)

The ghost of a girl dressed in white had appeared —that was the hottest topic in the neighborhood.

Regardless of the New Year or coming-of-age ceremony, the sight of the residents who bloomed over the seasonal ghost story, gave me unpleasant feelings.

“This world… is this a world where spiritual bodies walk around? If so, from tonight onwards, I demand to sleep on the same bed and to have you escort me when I’d like to go to the toilet. Though I am a shrine maiden, I have zero resistance toward those kinds of things.” (Angelica)

“Please be at ease. No ghosts or spirits exist in this world. This is a dimension that doesn’t even have magic.” (Keisuke)

“…it’s such a lonesome world.” (Angelica)

“Instead, mechanical engineering is developed. Your favorite bidet is an example.” (Keisuke)

“I-It’s not I like it… But, I don’t dislike it either…” (Angelica)

Angelica was fidgeting while rubbing her thighs together. She seemed to be remembering the incident from before.

“But if there are no ghosts in this world, why would you bother investigating it?” (Angelica)

“There’s the possibility that it was a mistake. It’s just to be safe, a precaution.” (Keisuke)

I have to say, I don’t really think there’s any kind of ghost. That must be a mistake about something, and I just want to raise my level of conviction.

I do not believe in unfounded superstitions or the occult. Because of that, when I saw Angelica for the first time yesterday, *“Oh, this is it!”* —I thought that this was definitely the true identity of the ghost.

She arrived in Japan some days ago and has been hiding somewhere in the apartment building. Then, she found a chance and trespassed into my room.

Indeed, I saw that she had some kind of mysterious aura sometimes. Combined with her fluttering fantasy costume, it wouldn't be strange if she was mistaken to be a foreigner ghost.

(Yeah, case closed!)

Then again, after I put my feelings into this deduction, it was shot down magnificently.

Angelica told me that she arrived to Japan just before I got home. In other words, it has been ten hours or so since she came to Japan. It was impossible for her to be mistaken as a ghost that started appearing since a week ago.

"So, would you help me? I'll prepare a reward later." (Keisuke)

"……a date?" (Angelica)

"It's clothes!" (Keisuke)

I have to prepare female clothing and underwear for her anyway, so whatever her answer later, those are the items I intended to buy no matter what.

But I used it as negotiation material. I guess that's how adults are.

"Okay, I don't mind… However, there's one thing I'd like to ask first." (Angelica)

"What is that?" (Keisuke)

"Don't you think Angelica is too long?" (Angelica)

She raised her index finger, *"This is the most important part!"* —and made that kind of face.

Her cheeks turned a bit red, so I wondered if she was excited about something. She has a good complexion even without make up.

"…were you being called something else?" (Keisuke)

“Before I came here, I was called Angie or Angel.” (Angelica)

“Then, Angel.” (Keisuke)

“You didn’t hesitate at all, did you?” (Angelica)

I mean, Angie reminds me of a certain Hollywood actress with a strong image that’s totally different from hers.

“Then, I request that as well. Please call me properly as your guardian. Stop calling me Hero-sama.” (Keisuke)’

“But that’s disrespectful. Because to me, Hero-sama is a hero.” (Angelica)

“I don’t like it that much, that hero stuff.” (Keisuke)

Because it reminds me of all the bad things.

“…got it. Then, Father.” (Angelica)

“Good girl, Angel!” (Keisuke)

Since the naming problem was solved, we proceeded to the main subject.

<Party Member Sacred Shrine Maiden Angelica activates the Sensing skill.>

<While using the skill, MP will be consumed by 2 every second.>

I look up to Angelica after skimming through the window of text that came into sight.

The shrine maiden with blond hair walked quietly with her eyes closed. She went back and forth through the room, touched the wall, and focused her ears. I think she kept doing so for two or three minutes, but it was such an interesting scene.

That girl, she had her eyes closed while making a serious face. Moreover, I could feel a sacredness coming out from her figure.

That was a huge discovery.

While I was fascinated by her, she suddenly stopped in front of me, sat down, and

opened her eyes.

Her emerald green eyes framed by long eyelashes, were staring straight into mine. She looked inorganic somewhere, as if she were a doll.

"……Father?" (Angelica)

"Oh, sorry. How was it?" (Keisuke)

She called in a businesslike tone while I was lost in thought. Her expression returned from that of a doll to a human being

Numerous beads of sweat were hovering on her forehead.

What the hell did you find in this short time? I thought.

Angelica answered my question while rubbing her arms.

"Things that are not human… swarmed. I also felt strong malice. If we do not do something soon, someone will die in the near future." (Angelica)

CHAPTER 9
BAD INSECTS REPELLENT

From her pale complexion, how serious the situation was transmitted, —“there’s ghost”.

It was not just a rumor, but there really was a ghost.

Just one thing, I’m a bit curious about the reason she chosen “swarmed” expression. Somehow, that reminds me about fluorescent light on the ceiling. The carcass of insects which invaded in the summer, that sticky yellowish object.

Suddenly, the image of black ghost covering the building floated on my mind. It was way too sinister, disordered, and cursed. Such a dirty scene that made me want to spit whenever I remembered it.

“Was that a kind of evil spirit?” (Keisuke)

“I don’t understand that well, but my skill regards it as something wicked… Perhaps something like a devil, a ghost, or an evil spirit.” (Angelica)

Angelica counted with a trembling voice.

“I don’t want to stay here…” (Angelica)

(I don’t want to live in this kind of place either. I mean, who would want to live in a haunted house?)

I wondered if I should return to my parents’ house.

Explaining the circumstances while making up stories about Angelica appropriately. Living together as parasites there.

That would not be too bad, but by no means the best.

I’ve decided to become her father, so escaping is not an option.

In front of a frightened daughter, what's the action a father should take?

"Leave it to me. It's a father's job to drive away bad insects." (Keisuke)

I struck my chest hard while reassuring my daughter.

I'll protect her from all threats. That's the best I can do right now.

I put magical power on my fingertips, and started activating <The Art of Law> skill. It's the image that matters.

I spun a shining thread around the room, into a shape of cocoon. I focused my mind while producing such images in the brain

"<Sacred Circle>" (Keisuke)

I casted a spell that reflected my will to protect Angelica.

The magical powers responded mechanically, and a glowing light wrapped around her.

"Oh!? Wait, please wait! This is enough. You do not have to overdo it!!" (Angelica)

I kept sending the magical power while ignoring the excited Angelica who kept shouting "Wow~ Wow~".

This is a barrier magic that protects an area of about 300 meters in radius from a designated person, from every threat.

The ghosts should get blown away by my magical power, and should not get closer to Angelica for a while. The rest should either be purified or go to haunt another target somewhere else. For the time being, the story ends.

It's just a barrier after all. To put it another way, it's simply "super effective insect repellent spray".

Though the insects disappear if you spray such a thing on your body, all you earn just a time.

The similar commotion will occur as long as I do not cut off the origin of the ghost somewhere.

Why did the ghost appear in this neighborhood? I have to understand that or I wouldn't find a lead to the fundamental solution.

I wondered if I should check the cemetery around here, or if I should change the arrangement of the furniture according to Feng Shui.

I don't want to think there's a hexagonal stars drawn with blood, was left behind in some room by its resident who has died and turned into skeleton, and this ghost stuff won't end until I hold a memorial service or something.

Angelica started acting weird when I was musing by myself. She was weird from the beginning, but what I meant here was different kind of weird.

Angelica was sitting while looking downwards with a bright red face, steam was also rising from her head. She seemed like a resident of a different world.

Different world in this case was not that "different world". I mean, she looked like a character that ran away from a romantic love comedy space-time.

Did I do something to make her feel bashful?

"What's wrong, Angel?" (Keisuke)

"I mean, Father just…" (Angelica)

Angelica covered her cheek with both hands while making a face that seemed about to melt. It was the face of woman who's longing for something.

"…a while ago, it was Sacred Circle, right?" (Angelica)

"Yeah. But with your <The Art of Law> skill, you should be able to cast it too, right? Or is that unusual?" (Keisuke)

"No, that's pretty famous magic that anyone knows about it, but… this magic is usually used to protect the general in the war or the likes, right? One needs to keep pouring the magical power to maintain it. People who used it would turn empty and eventually collapse." (Angelica)

"Oh, that's a common accident." (Keisuke)

In my case, I could cast it for ten or more times a day.

“Uuuuuu…” (Angelica)

“So, why are you holding your head?” (Keisuke)

I observed a strange creature that was red up to neck with cold eyes.

“Do you want to know what I’m feeling right now? Because I fell down and scraped my knee, you carry me to a bed with princess carry, calling the national’s best doctor to check me, and make me to take bed rest all day long… That kind of feeling.” (Angelica)

“What are you talking about?” (Keisuke)

“You’re overprotective! Why did you suddenly use such a big skill on me!?” (Angelica)

Well, because I’m your guardian.

This much is natural to do as a father.

This skill is something trivial for me, after all.

Or, was I overreacting?

I can’t answer it.

I felt embarrassed because she mentioned it.

Did I do something to be taken as doting parent behavior first thing in the morning?

Angelica kept looking at me with a strange look.

(Well, it should be better than being hated.)

It would be good if I didn’t accidentally push a fatal love trigger because of this.

Thinking about Angelica who kept directing such a sight to me, l got a reason to be worried.

CHAPTER 10
THERE'S SIMPLE METHOD TO MOTIVATE PAPA

"Don't worry about it. It was part of my obligations as your guardian." (Keisuke)

I went to the kitchen while trying to hide my embarrassment.

Certainly, the atmosphere would have turned awkward if I had looked at Angelica in the eye, so I used the only available escape route.

I shook my head to dismiss all unnecessary thoughts, and began to get breakfast ready.

We had a Japanese-style dinner last night, so I decided to make a Western-style breakfast this time.

I took a couple of wieners and frozen chicken from the refrigerator, and put them into microwave oven, while being disturbed by Angelica, who clung to me like a cat.

As the cooking process would take few minutes, I proceeded to put a jug of milk, some bread, and salad on the table.

"Wow~ Today's food is similar to the food of that country." (Angelica)

"Oh, right. I'll teach you how to use the microwave." (Keisuke)

I proceeded to explain the uses of both the microwave and refrigerator to Angelica, who had a dumbfounded look on her face. I also demonstrated to her, how to heat the food.

Although she was puzzled at first; eventually, she convinced herself that both appliances were part of the artifacts of this world.

"I will make an extra portion for your lunch. Don't forget, okay? Just as I taught you earlier, put the food into the box, press this button and it will begin to warm your food. Since the heat rays are strong enough to kill animals in a few minutes, be careful not to put anything in but food." (Keisuke)

Then, Angelica…

“A heat ray similar to dragon’s breath is inside this box…?” (Angelica)

I backed up.

“Wow! Wow! Wow! The toilet shoots water breaths, and the cooking box emits murder beams freely… so father was able to become the strongest hero because he grew up in such an environment…” (Angelica)

I proceeded to arrange the dishes and cups on the table, while receiving the mixed eyes of fear and respect from Angelica.

“It’s ready!” (Keisuke)

We sat opposite each other, clapped our hands, and said: “Itadakimasu” then started to eat.

Thus, a lively breakfast ensued.

(Now then, this is a Japanese version of western food, I hope she likes it.)

I watched Angelica as she raised a piece of bread to her mouth.

“Oh, it’s soft!” (Angelica)

She smiled. It was a heartwarming smile, a sign that she liked it. Just then, I thought that we had done well as parent and daughter so far.

“Is it delicious?” (Keisuke)

Angelica nodded in a cute manner.

“Father is so kind… I do want to be your wife after all.” (Angelica)

Angelica then spared me a sidelong glance secretly

(Stop it! What are you talking about to a person who just entered a father mode?)

As the flow seemed unstoppable, I finished my breakfast in a hurry.

I tidied up the dishes quickly before grooming myself using a nail clipper in preparation for work.

Although it is only a part-time job, I work for a restaurant and the store manager is especially strict about hygiene-related stuff like this. For men, keeping our hair long wasn't an option at work, so was a beard.

"Have you cut your nail properly?" It was checked every day.

Even though it was to "prevent food poisoning," it was still, quite a hassle.

I carefully grasped the tip of my nail with the clipper, and cut it off. This generated a snapping sound.

The manual said to cut them off, until the white part of nail tips was completely gone.

I completed the cut and finished with a nail file that was attached to the nail clipper.

'How does she feel watching me do this?' I pondered, albeit a little worried.

In my mind, an image of her disgustedly saying, "Gross! He's grooming his nails with a serious face, even though he's a man" came up…

(I wish I had not thought of that.)

I glanced sideways, and her reaction was…

"Umm… those cuts are deep… does that mean I can expect something tonight?" (Angelica)

She was just a female cat in heat after all. My worries were all for naught. It was disappointing in more ways than one.

How she was able to become a sacred shrine maiden with such a personality, was still a mystery to me.

I continued chatting with Angelica while harboring these thoughts.

I informed her not to go out until I had taught her the basic knowledge of Japan, or at least, prepared local clothes for her.

In regards to the ghost disturbance, when she has time to spare, I asked her to investigate it by herself (it was rejected with watery eyes).

As I began to enjoy the talk with her, she acted appropriately and behaved according to her age. I made random jokes and we laughed together. There was also skin to skin touching.

(Now, I understand the feelings of people who frequent cabaret clubs.)

After being called “Father” repeatedly, it somehow started to feel pleasant.

“Father! Father! Father! Father! Father!” (Angelica)

“You don’t have to keep repeating “Father” just because I look so happy when I hear it.” (Keisuke)

My part-time shift today starts from 9 am and ends at 3 pm, and it’s already half past eight. Regrettably, it’s about the time that I go to work.

“I don’t have time anymore. I need to go to work.” (Keisuke)

“Eeh~ please don’t go! Don’t leave me! I don’t want to be alone!” (Angelica)

“I have a job, so please understand.” (Keisuke)

“Muuu~ it can’t be helped then… yeah, that’s true. Father was formerly a hero, after all. I’m sure you have a great job that’s needed by everyone.” (Angelica)

“Y-Yeah! It’s a job that is very fundamental to society.” (Keisuke)

“Wow!!!” (Angelica)

Are you a soldier? Are you a doctor? Or, a king?

I just couldn’t bring myself to tell Angelica, who was expecting my response with sparkling eyes that I only work part-time… at a ramen shop.

“I’m assisting a craftsman who supports the life of people, using technology inherited from the nation and has a history of 4000 years.” (Keisuke)

It was not a lie. I just used some exaggerated expressions to make it sound amazing.

“I know it. Even here, Father is a great person!” (Angelica)

“…You do have a skill to understand language, right? Over there, you can read the book to kill time.” (Keisuke)

“Okay.” (Angelica)

Angelica nodded in excitement.

In times like this, she tends to show her cute childish side over her mature side, and it was quite pleasing to see.

I wanted to pat her head, but I had heard that children these days dislike it, especially when it is an adult male doing the patting.

I guess skin-ship is out of the question, unless it is initiated by a woman.

It’s so complicated.

“I need to thank you for using your skill to search for the ghost. Therefore, I’m going to buy some clothes and food for you.” (Keisuke)

What I showed was a typical Japanese father’s behavior of expressing his love with souvenirs.

Besides, as she kept wearing that sensual dress, I didn’t know where to look. It resembled a wedding dress, except, it was more erotic. I couldn’t calm down.

“Please come back soon.” (Angelica)

“I will.” (Keisuke)

While trying to raise my spirit, I headed to the front door after speaking to her, and crouched down to put on my shoes.

(Today, at least, I will try not to break more than three dishes.)

Although it was a pathetic goal, I could not have wished for anything better.

Angelica sat next to me after I finished tying my shoelaces, a gloomy expression on her face.

“Angel?” (Keisuke)

Her lips sped towards me just as I turned to face me.

smooch

It was on my cheek, but the effect was relaxing.

“Have a safe trip, Father.” (Angelica)

Oooh…

I won’t break any dish today.

Let’s do my best.

Let’s open a store someday, and let’s build a house in a prime location.

I came out the house with such a good mood. I’m just a simple brain; I guess.

CHAPTER 11
RE-ENCOUNTER

In the end, four bowls still broke even after I made that vow to myself. However, this time, it wasn't my fault.

The store manager piled up dirty bowls, one after another, into the sink. He had done it so fast that there wasn't enough time to wash them. They fell down and thus began the day's catastrophe.

Even though I was somewhat slow, the biggest problem was a shortage of manpower.

One of the part-time workers resigned just last week. The shop that had been run by four people, before, only had three employees running it now.

It was only natural that some trouble reared its head, and that turned out to be a mountain of unwashed tableware.

The store manager said, "Too slow, change places!" Thus, I switched places and moved to dishwashing, but the situation hardly changed.

Even if the person in charge was replaced, the problem would remain because as there was simply not enough manpower.

This is the responsibility of the person in management side.

However, the store manager's personality wouldn't allow him to admit his mistakes.

I was blamed for everything, and he scolded me in front of the customers, as usual. It was like some kind of arranged pattern.

"What are you thinking? Are you trying to crush this shop?"

I obediently accepted his scolding.

But in my head, all I thought of was Angelica's smile.

Thanks to that, I didn't get discouraged at all.

Some noisy guests are making a fuss, even though the popcorn is delicious. The girls staring are also cute, and I felt great.

(Is this the power of a daughter?)

I'm the kitchen of a ramen shop, but I'm so happy that I don't think about the abuse that I receive from the fatty owner.

(Your father will do his best.)

I need to quit and leave this shop as soon as possible, and look for a job that can actually make use of my strength.

When I receive my salary this month, I'm going to go to Hello Work and start anew. That's a part of my responsibility as the head of the family.

"People like you will never get married and have a family. In the future, you will die in solitude, and your dead body will still be a burden for the people around. Today is already over. I feel like hitting your face, so get out of my sight!"

I'm may be a troublesome shop clerk, but I think the remarks of store manager are a little too much.

No part-time worker applied for a job to this shop, because of his bad mouth. That is why he still keeps me hired. Black manager and black employee; It's a binding lid on a cracking pot. I still feel grateful to him for hiring me, so I won't talk back.

I headed to the changing room and took off my uniform.

I looked at the clock, and it was still around 2 o'clock in the afternoon. It meant that the time he had to choose souvenirs, had increased.

I pushed the time card and left the office one hour earlier than planned.

I walked down the cold road, aiming at a convenience store close by, to look for souvenirs for Angelica.

(I'll withdraw some money from the ATM, buy some good clothes and tasty food,

before going back home. She will be surely be delighted with this.)

I was told that she loved me, even though I didn't do anything in particular.

I pulled my loosened cheeks and advanced forward. But then, I suddenly realized a serious problem and stopped walking.

I'm going to buy clothes for her.

In other words, underwear is also included.

Well, that's probably the top priority. I mean, it relates to sanitation.

Angelica had been wearing the same underwear for two days after all.

But thinking of this normally, can I really buy it?

An uncle in his thirties… is buying female underwear…

It seems that I can also buy it at the convenience store, but I still need a lot of courage to do it.

What would the store clerk think?

It would be good if the store clerk thinks that I was asked to buy it for my daughter. If not, then what?

"Did you see it? That uncle just bought female underwear."

"Horrible. Does he buy it for his own use?"

"Yuck, pervert! Does he have a hobby of wearing women's' clothes now? He, who was once known as a former summoned hero, is now being called a 'dish breaking master'. So pathetic."

There were some strange mental attacks mixed in with my delusion. It was proof that I have been driven into a corner.

What should I do? If it's impossible to buy it directly at the shop, should I order it online? No, it will arrive tomorrow at the earliest.

Right now, she's like a cat with a good fur. It's human nature to want to provide her clean underwear, as soon as possible.

Human nature, huh?

(It looks like I've become an overprotective father without noticing it.)

But there is nothing wrong with being overprotective. I lost Elsa in the worst form and got the<Paternity>skill in return. So, what's the problem with being a sweet daddy now?

That's right. I promised that I'd become proper father, this time.

Let's quickly buy what I need in convenience store and go to the shop clothes after that.

I switched my feelings and started walking again.

I spotted the game center from yesterday as I advanced several hundred meters away from the previous place.

After being mistaken for a voyeur photographer, I ended up beating down some high school students that I had just met behind that building.

The automatic door opened right as I passed in front of the entrance of the game center.

A high school girl came out.

She had long black hair, and her profile was surrounded by a refined atmosphere.

"AH!" (Rio)

The incontinent girl from yesterday, she's called Rio.

"……" (Keisuke)

Our eyes met.

I wondered if she still held a grudge against me. Maybe she'll call her friends inside to come and take revenge for her, right there and then.

Since I was sure that her thoughts about me, probably, weren't anything good, I decided that it would be best to leave the place quickly. I hastened my pace in order to get away from her.

(What a waste of a beautiful face.)

She dressed normally but still looked stunning. Based on her appearance alone, I'm sure that she belongs to the popular group in her class. I guess that was the reason why she hung out with people like that lion guy and his group, doing what delinquents would.

(Too bad. What a waste of treasure.)

While I was pondering such rude thoughts, I heard a girl panting right behind me. It was a girl who was desperately running after me.

"…wa-wait, you… wa-walk too fast." (Rio)

I stopped and then around to reply.

"What is it? Do you want to settle the scores?" (Keisuke)

"N-No, nothing like that…" (Rio)

Since she was not in a condition to talk, I waited for her to catch her breath.

For a while, she was out of breath, but she gradually calmed down. She fixed her disheveled hair and then tightly grabbed my sleeve.

The feeling that she seriously wanted to speak to me was transmitted from the strength of her fingertips.

"You, what are you? It doesn't make any sense. Leo's wound from yesterday's fight, strangely, is almost healed and new teeth have started growing." (Rio)

Leo? Oh, that lion king guy. I used recovery magic on that boy after all.

"Well, I guess that's the power of nature. Lion is the king of animals, so he should be able to regenerate a tooth or two." (Keisuke)

“Don’t play dumb! You did that, didn’t you?” (Rio)

She was concerned about the mysterious regeneration phenomenon and chased after me because she thought that I was the culprit behind it.

She had her doubts, or rather, she was curious.

“Uncle… I mean, Mister! You are psychic, aren’t you?” (Rio)

I didn’t have any obligation to answer her. There was Angelica waiting for me, so I have to go home as soon as possible.

I shook off my sleeve and walked away from her. But Rio followed me persistently.

“P-Please wait… I apologize! Yesterday was all my mistake! I admit it! I’m sorry!” (Rio)

She lowered her head to me in public. The angle was perfectly 90 degrees.

(Please stop that!)

When a middle-aged man and young girl are in this kind of situation, people would absolutely see me as the bad guy here.

“Lift your head! Do you need something from me? I’m in a hurry.” (Keisuke)

Rio took a breath and looked up at my face. Those were the eyes of someone pleading.

She really looked like Elsa when she made such a face. I felt a sense of déjà vu spreading inside me.

“Please help Leo!” (Rio)

The girl, who wasn’t Elsa, asked for help with a tight voice.

CHAPTER 12
IS IT A LIE OR THE TRUTH?

“You went through all this trouble just to ask me to help your boyfriend? You’re sure a devoted girlfriend.” (Keisuke)

“Leo is not my boyfriend. He is my big brother.” (Rio)

“You’re siblings? You don’t look alike, though.” (Keisuke)

“Of course, it is because we have a different father.” (Rio)

‘I guess her household is quite complex,’ I thought.

“I still can’t believe his fallen teeth are growing back. Anyways, it’s a good thing , so leave it be. Just keep him at home for the time being, well then…” (Keisuke)

“No, it’s not about teeth… Since they are steadily growing back; I’m not too concerned about it.” (Rio)

“Then, what is it?” (Keisuke)

I asked with a little irritation.

“You’re strong. Moreover, you were able to use a power that I couldn’t understand. Could it be you aren’t even a human? But that doesn’t matter now, because it seems to be impossible unless I ask your help. I’ve been looking for you for that reason…” (Rio)

“Let’s change locations…” (Keisuke)

I wouldn’t be able to stay calm and talk about my super human abilities in public.

Unlike the day before, this time, I personally led Rio to the back of game center.

It was an unmanned zone that was hidden from the hustle and bustle of people, and where I trampled down her friends.

Only bad boys and stray cats would enter such a place. However, one of them had been disinfected by my hands.

(There's no other visitor, right?)

I felt a little uneasy, but I didn't find a single human shadow on the way to that place.

It was the perfect spot for a secret story.

I faced Rio while leaving my back to the wire mesh.

Her glossy black hair fluttered in the wind. Her hand was stuffed into her uniform pocket. This view described a modern high school girl student, perfectly.

Looking closely from the front, I re-confirmed how good her style was.

She was a little shorter than me. I am exactly 175cm tall, so she should be around 165cm.

She had small face that resembled a model's.

"I…" (Rio)

Almost as soon as Rio opened her mouth, my eyes were pulled to the black spot spreading around her feet.

"It should be around that place. Isn't that yours?" (Keisuke)

"Whoaaaaaaaaaaa…" (Rio)

With an unsightly expression, Rio started to kick the ground with a furious momentum.

The dust rose as she covered the watermark with sand and gravel.

She turned around to face me after she was done with the ground.

Her expression was now clear and refreshing, and her face glittered with beads of sweat. She could pass for a young actress from a soft drink commercial.

After sprinting with full force, a girl, in her uniform, drinks something from a PET bottle, and then tells the product name to the audience —that kind of feeling.

Every trace of the girl, who had just finished stomping her own puddle of piss, had disappeared from her face.

Rio retained her neutral expression, and spoke as if nothing had happened.

“Can we get back on the subject? Leo might be in big trouble now.” (Rio)

“That leg strength is amazing.” (Keisuke)

“Can we get back on the subject?” (Rio)

“You don’t have to be ashamed; it was only a physiological phenomenon.” (Keisuke)

“Can we get back on the subject?” (Rio)

“Your face has turned red; you must be suck at Old Maid games.” (Keisuke)

“CAN WE GET BACK ON THE SUBJECT?” (Rio)

My eyes caught her shoulder quivering, so I stopped teasing her.

“So, what’s wrong with that Lion-kun?” (Keisuke)

Rio responded while brushing her disheveled hair with her hand.

“He had a fight with my mother’s boyfriend.” (Rio)

Her mother’s boyfriend? This phrase alone, caused me to imagine a host of chaotic family circumstances.

Of course, her mother is free to love someone.

If she’s single because of divorce, or because her husband died, then it wasn’t that strange for her to find a new lover.

But the information regarding her family’s circumstances was too little. Her mother, her big brother with the gaudy name, and her mother’s boyfriend… This could pass for crime suspense rather than a warm home drama.

“Is your mother divorced? Did she introduce her boyfriend, as a father candidate? Did

Lion-kun go on to disapprove, or something like that?" (Keisuke)

I asked the questions while trying to be as considerate as possible. However, the answer she returned was:

"That's almost right. But the problem is, this father candidate has a big tattoo on his back, and he also doesn't have a little finger on his left hand. He may be the worst father candidate she ever brought." (Rio)

It was an extremely unreserved reply.

Rather than a crime suspense, isn't this a yakuza story?

"My mother's crotch is loose. She changed male partners once every four years. Does she think it's an Olympic Game? How retarded." (Rio)

"It's getting rather difficult to listen to this." (Keisuke)

"Furthermore, since I was a junior high school student, the men she brought always ogled at me with their filthy eyes." (Rio)

"Please stop it already!" (Keisuke)

I already had a bad feeling about it.

"But, because Leo was there…" (Rio)

"That guy?" (Keisuke)

"Each time my mother's boyfriend tried to do something, Leo came jumping to help me and kicked their asses. I can't imagine what would have happened to me if Leo hadn't been there. He also fought Mister for me but was badly beaten instead… Because Leo worked hard, I've never been hurt." (Rio)

"That's unexpected. I thought he was just some bad kid, but it turned out that he was just doing his job as big brother, properly." (Keisuke)

"He isn't good at studying and his name is a bit funny, but for me, he is a great big brother." (Rio)

The beautiful little sister who was easily targeted by men… Her brother easily picked fights because he cared about her safety.

On the other hand, there was her mother's boyfriend who was a gang member with shitty morals.

Doesn't it seem like this combination has the highest mortality rate? Needless to say, her biggest concern is her big brother.

"Leo may be killed." (Rio)

Her voice was trembling.

"My mother is currently dating a yakuza member… a man called Gondo; he took Leo away. He came to the house today and tried to assault me." (Rio)

According to Rio, it began about a week ago when Gondo started dating her mother.

"Gondo always put his fatherly face on the front, but when I was about to change clothes, he would always try to peek at me. Occasionally, he rubbed my shoulder without meaning. He even goes as far as taking pictures of my underwear with his smartphone ¬ many times. I feel scared whenever I heard that camera shutter sound from inside the house. I feel like I'll go crazy if this keeps up."

(Oh, so that's how it is.)

I had now found the reason of her behaviors, yesterday.

Coincidentally, yesterday, I happened to be taking a screenshot with my smartphone when she was around.

The camera shutter sound was quite traumatic for her. She fell into panic when she heard it and she saw me ¬ close to her ¬ holding a smartphone.

An overreaction, from her delinquent big brother who only wanted to protect his little sister, followed. Eventually, in the end, the situation developed into violence.

Well, I understand their reason now, but if I had just been a weak uncle; right now, I would be sleeping in a hospital, just because of some misunderstanding.

In the first place, he should have checked my smartphone to see whether I was really a voyeur or not. If only he had checked the saved image list, even for a moment…

As for me used a violence, too ¬ it seems I haven't gotten used to living in Japan again.

"So, your big brother fought with that yakuza guy, Gondo, was it?" (Keisuke)

"That guy was trying to touch me again… Leo saw that and it turned into a fistfight. The usual Leo wouldn't lose but he had already been badly beaten by you. He was still weak, thus, he collapsed in one punch. That was the first time I saw Leo in such miserable condition." (Rio)

"Is that my fault? I was going to be lynched because of some misunderstanding. That was just a self-defense." (Keisuke)

"But it's your fault." (Rio)

If it was the usual Leo, he wouldn't lose. She kept saying that as tears accumulated on the in her eyes.

"Then, what do you want me to do? Okay, I got it. I'm going to take Lion-kun back." (Keisuke)

Rio, who had covered her eyes with both hands, shook her negatively.

I heard the sound of a sniffling nose.

"Bring… me…" (Rio)

"To where?" (Keisuke)

"His office…" (RIo)

Gondo had beaten Lion-kun up around noon. As soon as he confirmed that the other party had stopped moving; he packed Lion-kun into a car and left. Most likely to his office.

"Maybe he's dead." (Keisuke)

"He's not!!" (Rio)

She refuted while looking at my face with red eyes. Her beautify was in a mess; there were tears in her eyes, and her nose was runny.

“I understood the situation. But, why don’t you report it to the police?” (Rio)

“I’ve done that already. But when I gave Gondo’s name to the policeman, he said, “Say hello to you step-father,” then he hung up the phone. It seems the police are on good terms with Gondo’s group. Akin to a give-and-take for good sake.” (Rio)

The police had been corrupted.

I felt a bit dizzy.

What had happened to this country while I was fighting monsters as a hero in another world? Or, had it always been like this?

“In other words, you want someone super strong who can use a mysterious power, to save your big brother?” (Keisuke)

“Yeah. Go to the yakuza office and beat them all, that’s the gist of it.” (Rio)

“No thanks.” (Keisuke)

I promptly replied with an obvious answer.

“What merit is there for me? There’s no meaning in antagonizing that kind of outlaw group. You siblings have only brought me trouble since yesterday. I have no obligation to help.” (Keisuke)

“That… I really… am sorry…” (Rio)

“In the first place, I still don’t know whether this story is true or not. There’s a possibility you want to settle the score from yesterday and made up a story. You are plotting to make me clash with that unrelated gangster group. Yeah, that makes a sense. Because you couldn’t win, you have to make someone else beat me instead.” (Keisuke)

“That’s not true!” (Rio)

“What should I do to make you believe me?” Rio murmured weakly while crying.

I'd like to believe her if I could. However, I was badly betrayed in another world, so I couldn't trust people that easily.

"I don't really like that kind of thing, but… let's be clear on which is black and which is white." (Keisuke)

I looked her straight in the eye and murmured, "Status Open."

I didn't care about her ability value, but there were cases where a person's real character is written in the remarks column. I would judge whether she was lying or not.

The contents displayed were:

- Name : Saitou Rio
- Level : 1
- Class : High School Student Girl
- HP : 80
- MP : 120
- Attack : 70
- Defense : 65
- Dexterity : 70
- Magic : 100
- Magic Defense : 100
- Skill : Fathercon (asylum)
- Remark : The girl who had bewitched a member of gangster's eyes. Her brother is always protecting her, but sometimes also scolding her. Longing for a strong and a tough father figure, she doesn't realize it herself, but she's conscious of Keisuke as a love interest. Keisuke appeared in her dream last night and did xxxxx and xxxxx to her. "Sorry for being such a bad girl" she shouted in ecstasy. For her, it was a lascivious dream.

Somehow, an unexpected appraisal result came out.

CHAPTER 13
DON'T LOOK AT ME WITH SUCH EYES

I totally forgot to close the status window because I was too shocked.

<She doesn't realize it herself, but she's conscious of Keisuke as a love interest.>

I mean, isn't this strange? I haven't done anything that could make her develop those kinds of feelings toward me.

I simply gave first aid to her brother whom I'd beaten myself, and left the place briskly. But for her, it seemed like I looked cool and strong.

Because of her family's circumstances, she lives her life while feeling threatened by her mother's boyfriends. Does it make me look like an ideal father figure for her?

<She doesn't realize it herself, but she's conscious of Keisuke as a love interest.>

No matter how many times I tried to close the status window, my hand would stop on its own, and I couldn't take my eyes off that sentence.

It's written that she's interested in me as the opposite sex. Even though the person herself seems unaware, the feeling really exists somewhere. I'm a man, after all. To receive such feelings from a high school student who looks like an idol, I couldn't help but feel happy. In addition, her face looks exactly like Elsa.

"…will you help me? Or, are you still mad at us? Then, what should I do…? I'll do anything…!" (Rio)

She's looking at me with eyes full of anxiety. Long eyelashes, and her black pupils are wet with tears. A few strands of disheveled hair get caught on her lips. However, there's a strange sex appeal around her. Even the atmosphere started to somehow drift toward the wrong direction.

Shit, what I am thinking? Her age is half of mine. But thinking that she's conscious of me as the opposite sex, she suddenly becomes more charming for some reason.

“Do you think you can take advantage of me at will? Please don’t think that all older men like high school girls!” Well, I was going to say these words until a while ago, but…

Keisuke averted his eyes from Rio’s while pretending to be calm.

“O-Okay, but it’s not for free!” (Keisuke)

The truth is, I don’t need anything in return. But it seems I have begun to feel attachment towards this girl, which is not a good thing. Therefore, I want to convince myself that I’m not doing this for her, but for some kind of compensation.

“Should I pay with… money?” (Rio)

Rio clenched her hands tightly.

“That’s not it. There are the other ways to convey your sincerity.” (Keisuke)

I’m thinking of asking her to do something in return, and that is, buying underwear for Angelica.

I mean, it’s embarrassing to buy it by myself. I don’t know what her size is, and I don’t know what kind of underwear I should choose. Rio is a girl, so if I tell her about Angelica’s physique, I’m sure she can buy some suitable underwear.

When Keisuke tried to convey that idea, Rio backed away while embracing her body as if to protect it from him.

“D-Do you want my body?… will you save Leo if I do it? I don’t have experience with men, so I think I’m bad at it… but if it’s fine with you, I…” (Rio)

“WRONG!!” (Keisuke)

Keisuke threw out a word of denial with his full power, toward the girl who blushed in shame.

What’s going on inside the head of high school girls these days? If an adult man wants them to do something, don’t jump to the conclusion that it’s some sexual stuff.

Ugh, my head hurts… It seems like this sort of thing still happens a lot. How disgusting! There’s no progress since 2000.

“I’m not after your body! It’s underwear, underwear! I need a girl’s underwear right now!” (Keisuke)

“Understood…” (Rio)

“Don’t take it off! Don’t take it off! I didn’t mean *your* underwear! I’d like you to buy it for me! New underwear!” (Keisuke)

Rio, who had lowered her white underwear halfway down her legs, stopped moving completely.

“Right now, in my house, ummm… a girl from distant relatives… is staying over. Y-Yeah… that’s right, and she forgot to bring change of underwear, so I need to prepare it somehow or another.” (Keisuke)

“……but, you can just let her buy it herself.” (Rio)

“She’s a foreigner… Moreover, she came from a developing country like that of the medieval era. This is her second day in Japan and I don’t think she can go shopping by herself.” (Keisuke)

Rio pulled up her panties a little while adjusting its position.

“Someone from Africa…?” (Rio)

“Y-Yeah, somewhere around it. I was planning to buy it on the way home, but… it’s embarrassing, after all. If there’s an uncle who brings girls’ underwear to the cash register, what would they think?” (Keisuke)

“……but, you can just say that it’s for your girlfriend or your wife.” (Rio)

“Do I look like have one?” (Keisuke)

“I can’t see it.” (Rio)

She cut it off at the drop of a hat. I wish she could have held my feelings in consideration a little, though…

“And those are the circumstances. So I would like you to help me buy the underwear. Don’t worry, I will give you the money for that. In exchange, I will retrieve your big brother from those gang members. How’s that?” (Keisuke)

Rio still seemed to have some doubts left.

“Have you suddenly become somewhat gentle?” (Rio)

“No, well…” (Keisuke)

Keisuke started cracking his fingers and doing some stretching.

“Anyway, where’s the office that Leon-kun was brought to? I’m good at fighting but I’m not good at finding things. Please tell me if there are any clues.” (Keisuke)

“I got it, an easy-to-understand clue.” (Rio)

Rio searched her pocket and took out a business card.

“Gondo left some of his business cards in the house.” (Rio)

Keisuke received and checked it.

There’s nothing like “XXXX Gang” written on it, as expected, but his personal information is stated exquisitely.

“Takashi Gondo, representative of Gondo Construction Co. Ltd.” (Keisuke)

This is his public face, it’s called a yakuza’s front company. Both the address and the telephone number are stated properly. You would never think that there’s a crime group behind it.

“It’s pretty far. It’s about 20 km from here, I guess?” (Keisuke)

“Are you going to ride a bus? But if Mister has a car, I’d be glad if you let me ride it.” (Rio)

Too bad, I only have a mama’s bike. Sigh… a man in his thirties who doesn’t have a car or a house. Once again, I realize how sad my life is.

“…I will go on foot.” (Keisuke)

“You don’t have a car?” (Rio)

“I’ll run with full power, or fly… I’ll be there in no time!” (Keisuke)

“Why don’t you just take the bus?” (Rio)

‘Because riding the bus is wasting money!’…I can’t tell her that, can I?

“I can reach a few tens of meters with a vertical jump. If I just jump over the rooftops of the neighboring buildings, it will be fine.” (Keisuke)

Keisuke got into the posture for jumping while ignoring Rio, who was struck speechless.

I should not forget to activate the Hiding magic so that other people won’t see me. I don’t want to see a news report about a human rocket flying over the city in the afternoon news program, after all.

Rio suddenly called out Keisuke who was lost in his own thoughts.

“Bring me with you!” (Rio)

Impossible, it’s too dangerous. What are you thinking? I’m not going to take a girl, who seems to like me, to such a dangerous place.

“I’m not going there to play around!” (Keisuke)

Even though I said it as coldly as possible, she doesn’t seem to show any reaction.

“I want to see Leo as soon as possible, so please bring me with you! In addition…” (Rio)

“In addition?” (Keisuke)

“I’m interested in Mister.” (Rio)

Interested in what sense? My heart rate goes up a little now.

“Why are you so strong? How will you defeat those gang members? Who are you really? I want to know various things about you… I want to know more… I want to see it closely with my own eyes… Can I?”

“—why is Hero-sama so strong? Where are you from? Why did you help me escape from slavery? I want to know more about Hero-sama…” Elsa also asked such questions when we met for the first time.

My chest tightened. It’s a sad and nostalgic feeling. Still, I feel something warm inside whenever I remember the time we spent together.

Keisuke’s mouth was moving regardless of his intention.

“You’re free to come along, but hold on to me firmly!” (Keisuke)

Those same exact words I spoke to Elsa, came out on their own. I felt like I was being driven by some kind of invisible force.

“Really? I did it!!” (Rio)

Keisuke returned to his senses after seeing Rio dancing in joy.

What the hell I am doing? She is not Elsa. She was born and raised in Japan, a different person… Haaa, I’m really weak with this kind of thing. Well, there’s no use crying over spilled milk.

Keisuke took a deep breath and called out to Rio.

“I will cast on you a magic that increases physical abilities. You should be able to withstand the wind pressure with that. But, tell me if it gets painful!” (Keisuke)

I will also cast Hiding magic, so normal people won’t be able to see her.

After casting Hiding magic, Keisuke put his hands behind Rio’s shoulders and the backs of her knees, and then picked her up. He held her using the so-called ‘princess carry’.

Those two soft things would be pressed onto my back if I piggybacked her, and I judged it to be bad for my heart. Though it was a bit of a pathetic reason, I decided to use the princess-carry style, instead.

“Say, Mister.” (Rio)

“What?” (Keisuke)

“What’s your name?” (Rio)

“Nakamoto… Keisuke Nakamoto.” (Keisuke)

“I see. Nakamoto-san, huh.” (Rio)

It’s a normal name. It doesn’t matter what she thinks about it.

“My name is Rio Saitou. You called Leo using his full name, so I think you know it already… Hmm, that’s right! Nakamoto-san, how did you know our family name from the beginning?” (Rio)

“I still have some hidden cards.” (Keisuke)

Status Opening, is a skill given to the summoned hero after all.

Keisuke then jumped with Rio, who was still pondering his answer, in his arms. He landed on the roof of the department store while listening to the sound of the wind. He absorbed the shock using his body movement, then immediately jumped again to the next building, and so on.

Rio’s weight is as light as it looks. It’s about the same as Elsa’s.

CHAPTER 14
THE OTHER WORLD HERO'S CHEAT POWER

Keisuke and Rio arrived at Gondo's office. While looking up to the building, the two stood a little away from the gate.

Two-story office with simple appearance, that itself was within the range of common sense. However, the fence of concrete walls surrounding it, emphasized unnecessary defense force for a mere office building.

The out of place building located in a quiet residential area with the atmosphere resembling that of a dungeon, it was the job of the hero to capture such a dangerous facility.

"Let's do it!" (Keisuke)

Keisuke advanced towards the gate while cracking his fingers to psych up himself before the assault. Next to him, Rio was coming along quietly.

"Hey. I can't let you follow me further than this, wait here!" (Keisuke)

"Why!? I'm fine with blood. Or is this because I'm a girl? That kind of thinking is outdated." (Rio)

"I don't care whether it's outdated or brand-new." (Keisuke)

"It's not like I will join the fight. Besides, the other people can't see me right now, do they? Then there's no problem." (Rio)

It doesn't matter whether they can see you or not. Our opponents are gang members, there's a possibility of getting hit by stray bullets if they use guns.

I'm thinking for your sake, so why don't you understand? Please don't increase my workload.

"Just shut up wand wait outside! Listen to what the adult says!" (Keisuke)

I used a quite harsh tone to her. It seems I'm a little excited because I'm about to enter a battle.

Will she be afraid of me? Or, will she get angry instead?

Keisuke silently observed Rio's reaction. For some reason, her face turned red while her body trembling. She also seemed somewhat happy.

"YES!" (Rio)

The answer came with a shrill voice, strangely.

…… let's pretend I didn't see anything!

I received a favorable response, even though most girls were supposed to give the opposite one. But well, I shouldn't think too deeply about it. Yeah, she must be mentally unstable right now because her brother was kidnapped.

I want to think so. Even if it's not, I want to think so…

Keisuke cleared his throat and jumped over the fence. He canceled the hiding magic, considering that it would be better to give his opponents a sense of fear towards him. Next, he shot a light ball bullet to the surveillance camera facing his way.

It's not like I don't want to be seen, it's the opposite. I wanted to raise the sense of crisis of those who were watching the video.

Keisuke kicked the windowpane, and proceeded further.

I think it's about time for the punch-permed men group to pop out with guns in their hands.

Two men came out from behind the hallway while Keisuke had such a retro imagination. Two middle-aged men with tanned skins despite being winter season. One plump and one tall, while both of them really looked like bad guys because of their rough clothes. Unfortunately, their hairstyle was not a punch perm.

"Hey, Brother! What's the meaning of this?"

He asked with an unnatural hoarse voice, that was impossible unless he yelled with a

loud voice on his daily routine. Scenes where a yakuza extorted someone while shouting popped out in Kaisuke's head. The worthless way of life that affected both his face and his vocal cord.

"I'm looking for Gondo, where is he?" (Keisuke)

The answer from Keisuke's question was a straight punch to his face from the plump man.

I have an unpleasant feeling about this. His fist that hit me might have broken. I mean, my defense power is 45680 after all. It's harder than steel. Anyway, it's a suicidal act to hit my body directly.

"Take care of your hands. Those are a business tool for yakuza, right?" (Keisuke)

"Ugh…"

The plump man crouched down while holding his right hand. His shoulder tremble while his mouth kept leaking a comical groan.

"……what the hell are you?"

The tall man took out a gun from his breast pocket.

It's finally a gun's turn. I'm not interested in firearms, so I'm not really sure about this information. But, won't the bullet bounce back if you shoot a metal target with it?

"Stop it! The weapon that's designed with the assumption of human as the opponents wouldn't work on me. You will hurt yourself instead." (Keisuke)

"Are you trying to bluff?"

Hey, listen to what other people say!

Several dry shooting sound resounded as the bullets left the muzzle towards Keisuke's chest. But all of them bounced back everywhere, hit the floor and the ceiling while drawing a complicated maneuver before finally penetrating the tall man's shoulder and knees in the end.

"Arghhhh…"

“You will get yourself killed even without me doing anything at this rate…” (Keisuke)

Keisuke asked the tall man who had fallen dramatically once again.

“So where’s Gondo?” (Keisuke)

“……I’d rather die!”

I’ve never thought of hearing such heroic words from a gang member in this day and age. How admirable, his spirit for not easily selling his boss. The demons in that world will fluently tell you confidential informations when they are put in this kind of situation.

“I don’t dislike that kind of attitude. Or rather, I really respect it. But you’re a bad guy here, so hurry tell me where is Gondo?”

“If… If you have women in your family… I will make sure they experience something worse than death… for the rest of their life… You’d better be prepared…”

“I was thinking how admirable of you until those disgusting threat coming from your mouth.” (Keisuke)

Keisuke trampled and crushed the tall man’s knee.

“Guaaah!”

I’m good at breaking the dishes. Chinese dish at ramen shop or even knee dish.

“I hate when someone is targeting the people I care about. That makes me want to kill the other party out of necessary. I don’t like myself when I’m behaving so brutal.” (Keisuke)

“Gyaa… Guaah…”

Keisuke moved his fingertip closer to the nose of tall man who opened his mouth in agony, and casted a flame magic from it.

“This will be more painful when I burn your eyes. Say it quickly, where is Gondo?” (Keisuke)

"……"

"Okay, let's try it!" (Keisuke)

"President office room! He is in the president office room! Go straight then turn left, there are stairs there. You can see the room immediately after climbing it."

"It looks like the pain has made you able to speak properly now. Then, where is the high school boy that Gondo brought? The delinquent-looking boy with blonde hair and a lot of piercings…" (Keisuke)

"……that brat is with Gondo-san."

Keisuke left behind the tall man and advanced toward the president office room, following the route he learned from him.

On the way, a man with a knife rushed towards Keisuke. He flew few meters and his head stuck on the ceiling after Keisuke reflexively hit him,

He looks like a Teru Teru Bōzu doll with a bad taste.

I hope he won't die.

"I will forever make it a sunny day with the power of my grudge" I don't want that kind of background story after all.

Keisuke looked up to the avant-garde art swaying on the ceiling while climbing the stairs.

Shujinkou Note:

- Punch perm (パンチパーマ) is a type of tightly permed male hairstyle in Japan. From the 1970s until the mid-1990s, it was popular among yakuza, chinpira (low-level criminals), bōsōzoku (motorcycle gang members), truck drivers, construction workers, and enka singers.

CHAPTER 15
PERSUASION WITH VIOLENCE

Immediately on the second floor, there was a door with “President’s Office” written on it. The door was made out of metal, in case of a raid.

Keisuke twisted the door knob, but it was locked and wouldn’t open. Having no other choice, he penetrated the door with a punch, reached out for the knob, and unlocked the door from the other side.

This serves as intimidation, too.

I would appreciate it if they could understand the difference in our strengths and surrender peacefully.

Keisuke opened the door slowly. The first thing that entered his field of vision was a leather sofa. Turning his line of sight to the side, he found that a tall man in a black suit was sitting on it.

He looks like he is in his early 40s. Though it seems like the blood has been drained from it, that must be the face of a man feared by his subordinates under normal circumstances.

He has thin, hung-up eyes, like a cut that was made in clay by a cutter knife. In those eyes, there is a lowly light similar to that of a rat or a stray dog, that gives out an unpleasant feeling.

He is missing his left hand’s little finger, so there’s no doubt, this man must be Gondou.

“You saw it too, right? I can even tear a metal door open like it was a paper door. I want you to surrender peacefully.” (Keisuke)

“……do-don’t screw with me, are you even a human?” (Gondou)

“You’re Gondou, right?” (Keisuke)

“So what?” (Gondou)

“I came to reclaim the eldest son of the Saitou family… also, don’t put your hands on the little sister, break up with the mother, and don’t ever come near their house anymore!” (Keisuke)

“Bastard, what’s your relationship with them?” (Gondou)

“That’s my question, who are you to them? Looking at Rio with those disgusting eyes and even half-killing her big brother… aren’t you ashamed?” (Keisuke)

To show that he was serious, Keisuke grabbed Gondou’s collar and lifted his body while making a frightening expression.

“Can you hear me?” (Keisuke)

It would be good if he surrenders after getting a taste of my power. No matter how scummy he is, solving this problem without violence is the best.

“Yeah, I hear you. I hear you. I won’t go near them anymore. I promise!” (Gondou)

“……that’s not convincing at all when you say it while sticking a stun gun to me.” (Keisuke)

“Hihihihi! You let your guard down! You let your guard down! Hahahaha! Serves you right! Hahahaha!” (Gondou)

Gondou poured the electric current into Keisuke’s body while laughing like crazy. A dull sparking sound could be heard.

Just for your information, I didn’t let my guard down. He kept one of his hands hidden inside his pocket, so I knew that he was planning something. I could easily predict what he was going to do.

So, why did I do nothing if I knew he was going to do something? It’s because I judged that the discussion may proceed smoothly if he understands my power.

“……what the hell? How can you still stand? Oh, it seems that I’m having a nightmare right now. Hihihihi…” (Gondou)

“I have a high magical and physical defense, so electric shocks or flames wouldn’t work on me.” (Keisuke)

Unless he was using a non-attribute attack with big firepower, he couldn’t inflict any damage on me.

But, well, even if I gave him such a game-like explanation, nothing will be transmitted to him in his current state.

“Dream… I’m inside a dream now… Hihihihi…” (Gondou)

Gondou tumbled from the sofa while laughing a disgusting laugh. He crawled on all fours and moved closer to the sleeping bag in the corner of the room. Then he opened the zipper, and from inside, the bloody figure of King Leo could be seen.

“You came to help this kid, right?” (Gondou)

Gondou took down the katana used as a decoration nearby, and pressed it against King Leo’s neck.

“I will cut his neck if you try anything funny!” (Gondou)

Keisuke heard footsteps from behind. Looking back, he saw four men holding rifles gathered in front of the room. He was sandwiched by the enemies.

I’m not afraid of the rifles, but it will be bad if King Leo gets shot.

I can restore missing body parts but it’s impossible to bring back the dead.

However, Gondou can’t be left alone.

What should I do? I have to take care of Gondou in front of me and the four men with rifles in the back at the same time, somehow.

“Hey, what are you going to do, Superman? The tables have been turned now.” (Gondou)

Gondou narrowed his eyes and seemed to be having fun.

“Let’s stop here! Don’t you want Rio to like you? If you kill her big brother, you will be hated by her for the rest of your life. It will be painful if a stepfather is hated by his

stepdaughter." (Keisuke)

To those words, Gondou began to laugh with drool dripping from his mouth.

"I see, you're her acquaintance, huh… Did she ask you for help? That bitch! I won't let her get away this time! Yeah, bring her! Bring her to me! Come here naked and beg to me! If she will be my pet, I will spare her brother!" (Gondou)

A shaky laughter echoed.

I know he's a gangster, but those words make him fail as a human being.

So this is what a boss of the yakuza looks like, huh… But perhaps he's under the influence of drugs right now.

It seems like his sense of pain is dulled. There's no need to hold back now.

Keisuke poured magical power into his limbs and got ready to cast the skill.

<Hero Keisuke consumes 2000 MP. The Two Actions skill is activated.>

<Two rounds of action per turn for 180 seconds will be possible.>

The mechanical system message popped out in front of Keisuke

This skill fits the bill when facing multiple enemies.

"Bring Riooo~! Riooo~! Hurry uuup~!" (Gondou)

Immediately after Gondou barked, Keisuke started to move.

The Two Actions skill is different from a skill that raises speed.

If I had to choose one, this skill is better because it interferes with the rules of the world.

In exchange for magical power, two actions become possible to be executed in one action.

I just need to think, "I want to break Gondou's arms" and "I want to neutralize the men

behind me", and those can be done at the same time with this skill.

From my perspective, I charged towards Gondou and cut off his arm which held the sword with a hand-chop.

But at the same time, innumerable screams, along with the sound of rifles being destroyed, could be heard from behind me, and I received the memory about charging towards the men behind me and destroying their rifles.

It feels like there's another me that does the other job and comes back into me again after finishing it, together with the memories and the experiences.

The feelings when I use this skill can only be described like this.

A skill that bends the laws of physics and exceeds the human cognitive ability.

"W-Wha…?"

"W-Why…?"

The enemies who were attacked from two directions at the same time, were stuttering with a stunned face. Then, Keisuke pulled King Leo out of the sleeping bag and called out to Gondou.

"Look here! No matter how bad the wounds, I can heal them in an instant." (Keisuke)

Using the power of restore magic, the swollen Leo's face returned to its original color. His ballooned cheeks turned back into smooth lines, and regained their sharp impression.

Only this sharp impression resembles that of Rio's.

Leo slowly opened his eyes and took a glance at Keisuke and Gondou alternately.

"The old man… from the game center… why are you here…?" (Leo)

He asked the question with a voice that sounded as if it were about to vanish.

"Thank your little sister! She lowered her head and begged for me to save her big brother." (Keisuke)

“But I’ve… tried… to attack you… before… so… why…?” (Leo)

“Because I was asked to.” (Keisuke)

“Seriously…” (Leo)

“You’re still a brat. Unlike this old yakuza bunch, there’s still room for rehabilitation. You need to return alive, and quit being a delinquent.” (Keisuke)

“You’re… a str… ange… one…” (Leo)

Leo lost consciousness once more while uttering such words.

His vocabulary seems to be poor.

“Now, Gondou-san. Do you understand the situation? I could heal a dying person in an instant. If I wanted to, I could even restore your missing hand. What will you do?” (Keisuke)

“Ooh… P-Please… my hand…!!” (Gondou)

Thinking that he had been subjected to mercy, Gondou approached Keisuke with a happy expression.

“Restore it… hand, my right hand… please… turn it back…!!” (Gondou)

“It seems you’ve gotten the wrong idea.” (Keisuke)

Keisuke said, while picking up the right hand that had been separated from Gondou.

“What I’m trying to say here, is that I can cut off your limbs over and over again until I get tired of it.” (Keisuke)

Gondo began to spasm with foam coming from his mouth.

Is this because of fear or drug overdose? I can’t stand it anymore. Let’s finish this quickly.

Keisuke grabbed Gondou’s hair and brought his face closer.

“Hey, do you hear me?” (Keisuke)

Neither fighting spirit nor reason could be felt from Gondou who kept nodding like a broken doll. He has turned into a slave who could only obey his master's orders.

Don't ever come near the Saitou family.

Don't contact the police.

Bring me a change of clothes.

If you're eating at a ramen shop called Akaryu-do in front of the station, and hear the sound of a broken dish and the shouting of its store manager, tell him to stop it.

After making sure Gondo has swallowed all his demands, Keisuke treated all the yakuza using magic.

It's better to make use of them rather than killing them.

Keisuke left the office while lending his shoulder to Leo.

"Leo! Nakamoto!" (Rio)

They were greeted by Rio in front of the gate, and the mission was completed. Fanfare resonated inside Keisuke's head together with a huge amount of text messages popping out in front of him.

<Keisuke Nakamoto won the battle!>

<Gained 226 EXP>

<Gained 15 Skill Points>

<The performance of the unique skill "Paternity" has been strengthened.>

<The feelings of party member Rio Saitou have changed from "interest" and "admiration", to "love" and "lust".>

<The favorability of Rio Saitou has reached a level where sexual intercourse and marriage are possible.>

<Would you like to name Rio Saitou as your spouse?>

Come on, please give me a break already!!

Keisuke tapped his index finger repeatedly to close all the windows, while pretending not to see Rio's feverish gaze.

CHAPTER 16
GHOST, GHOST, AND GHOST AGAIN!

"To tell the truth, my impression about Gondou wasn't bad at the beginning. I could guess that he was someone from the back of society, but he was a gentleman when we first met. However, when he visited our home for the second time, he looked like a completely different person. His gaze made me feel uncomfortable. I wondered if it was his real nature…" (Rio)

"Hmm, come to think of it… he talked about seeing a ghost or something beforehand…" (Rio)

"By the way, about the foreign girl that's staying in your house, she is not actually your girlfriend, right? She is not, right? Right?" (Rio)

"I see, so she's not your girlfriend… Thank goodness… N-No, it's nothing… Oh right, let's exchange numbers! I'd like to properly thank you later." (Rio)

The words that Rio said before they parting kept playing inside Keisuke's head.

Ghost, ghost, and… ghost again, huh…

Not only in my neighborhood, it seems there's also ghost disturbance in her neighborhood.

What if Gondou's personality changed because he was possessed by an evil spirit?

What if Gondou's madness was because of the evil spirit, not drugs?

In that case, he may have been a victim too.

Because of such thoughts, I appraised Gondou's status for precaution.

I wonder what I should do if it turned out he attacked Rio because he was controlled by ghost. However, "—a high-school-girl-loving yakuza. He loved high school girls even before he was born." was written on his remark column.

He was harboring lust over Rio from the beginning. Even so, he behaved like a gentleman and suppressed his desire. However, it seems his brakes stopped working after he saw the ghost.

If I guessed it right, this evil spirit has the power to drag out the evil side that people are suppressing inside.

Ugh, my head hurts… I'm bad at spiritual body perception, so it's going to be really troublesome.

I was originally the weakest hero. I'm a clumsy man so the skills related to search, sense, and production have never been my forte.

I'm a physical-type hero, after all. No matter how much I trained, my ability in those fields will always be below the average.

I will not lose, but I have no means to find an invisible enemy which is running rampant somewhere even as we speak now. In a place unknown to me, it's spreading threat as if it's poking fun on my weakness.

But well, I have Angelica with me right now. That girl is a user of sensing skill which could cover that weakness.

Getting into a good mood, Keisuke looked into a paper bag in his hands.

I was splurging quite a money to buy clothes and other women's stuff that Rio recommended.

With these items that put special attention to the teenage girls, I hope it will motivate Angelica to help me. Let's make use of her skill and become a ghostbuster tomorrow.

"I'm home." (Keisuke)

This is the first time I say "I'm home" after living alone for quite a long.

Keisuke felt a warm feeling spread inside his chest as he opened the door of his apartment.

I wonder what kind of reaction Angelica will make when I give her this present. I'm looking forward to it, but I'm a little afraid.

I mean, she wouldn't greet with me in naked apron like a newlywed couple, would she? But considering her personality, I can't get rid of that possibility.

If she imitates such a thing, it's a sermon time.

I'll tell her to treasure herself more.

Besides, I'm not into that kind of a thing.

It will be dangerous if she plays as a widow (31) in mourning clothes though.

The setting of an apartment wife will be also effective.

Well, it's not like someone from another world like her will understand such things.

That's why I'm invincible.

While Keisuke was taking his shoes while humming, he heard a rattle and footsteps coming from the living room.

That must be Angelica's

"Daddy! Hero-sama! Keisuke-sama! It's bad! It's really bad!" (Angelica)

"Hey, the way you called me was messed up. I mean, why are you in such a panic?" (Keisuke)

"Father!" (Angelica)

Angelica hugged Keisuke. She was dressed in a sacred shrine maiden's attire just like when he left home.

In other words, some kind of another world bra and valley were visible under a thin material like a tissue. In such a risqué appearance, various parts were being pressed against Keisuke.

"Oh, nice try! However, I've gotten used to it now. I've built my resistance." (Keisuke)

"Ghost! There's a ghost over there…!" (Angelica)

“Is this the setting where a widow saw a ghost of her deceased husband!? Since when did you know my weakness!?” (Keisuke)

“Over there, it appeared! The ghost with only its upper body, it popped out!” (Angelica)

Looking at Angelica’s face who was really frightened, Keisuke realized that she wasn’t playing a prank on him.

“……did it really appear?” (Keisuke)

Angelica nodded with tears flowed from her green eyes. Keisuke wiped off the tears from the corner of her eyes with his thumb, and then headed to the living room.

The Sacred Circle I applied on Angelica should be still in effect. If the ghost could still invade this place, it must be not an ordinary opponent.

It will be either a devil god or a spirit.

<Hero Keisuke consumed 300 MPs. Holy Sword skill activated. Your attack power increased by 300%>

<This skill is effective against spiritual body, devil, and undead opponent>

Suddenly, a light sword appeared in Keisuke’s right hand. He took a fighting stance and then stepped forward. His left hand stretched out in front of Angelica’s face, beckoned her to step back.

“Government is taking measures to increase social security expenses…”

I can hear the voice of announcer who doesn’t put emotion on it from the inside.

It’s a TV news program.

Did she turn on the TV?

Or is this a poltergeist phenomenon when the TV turns on itself?

“What’s actually going on?” (Keisuke)

“Umm, that… when I was playing with the square object on that table… a light suddenly

came out from it…" (Angelica)

"…and then?" (Keisuke)

"Then, a person with only the upper body appeared, and started talking! That was absolutely a ghost!? It's going to jump out of that lithograph soon, crawling with only the upper body, and looking for its lower body!?" (Angelica)

"Your imagination is rich…" (Keisuke)

Afraid of her own words, Angelica shrunk back more and more. Keisuke canceled his skill while feeling relieved.

"Angel, that thing is called TV. It is a tool that shows the scenery in the distance or events recorded in the past." (Keisuke)

"From distance?" (Angelica)

"I wonder how should I explain this. It's like a far-sighted crystal ball from your world, but it was made rectangle." (Keisuke)

"……then, is that person alive? Is it not a dismembered ghost?" (Angelica)

"From the waist down is only hidden on the desk. They didn't show it on the screen, though." (Keisuke)

Angelica breathed out relief, "so it's not a ghost" while having such a thought.

"The image from far-sighted crystal ball is more blurred than this. But it was so clear so I thought it was a person. This is the first time I heard it! It's not my fault!" (Angelica)

Angelica was talking so fast while avoiding eye contact.

She seems to be embarrassed.

I really want to tease her but it's better to not.

I've also experienced a terrible culture shock that I can't tell to other people.

You will be obviously confused if you suddenly come to a different world.

I couldn't believe that I was summoned to another world at first. For almost a week, I convinced myself that it was some kind of a prank TV program.

Compared to that, Angelica 's adaptability is better.

"Well, let me say it again; I'm home!" (Keisuke)

"Welcome home…" (Angelica)

CHAPTER 17
SUSPECT NAKAMOTO

Still though, with all this noise that we're making I'm surprised the next-door neighbor hasn't voiced any complaints. The voices ringing out are that an middle-aged man and a young girl no less, wouldn't that be concerning?

I sit down on the bed while thinking that if it were me, I'd probably start banging on the wall or something.

I place the paper bag down on the floor, and a rustling sound can be heard as I bring out the contents of the bag.

Keisuke: "I brought some souvenirs."

Angelica: "Wow! Souvenirs! This is love right? Love! This is because you love me, right?!"

Keisuke: "That's right, this is certainly love. Familial love, that is."

I handed over the clothing articles that were still wrapped to the hands of Angelica who disagrees while saying *whatever sort of love it is, there is hope for romance~!*

Angelica: "I see it's western-style clothes. Can I try them on now?"

Keisuke: "Yeah, that's fine, but don't strip here. I get it, it's my bad. Okay, I'm gonna head to the toilet so use that time to change."

I'm of the opinion that having a girl undress in front of you is not so different from being held at gunpoint. Most men in the world would have no choice but to throw their hands up in resignation and do as they are told.

As I entered the bathroom, I sat on the toilet seat and turned on my phone. I did some

business and logged in for the daily bonus from the social game I played.

I don't know how long does it take to change, but it shouldn't take that long, so I couldn't do a regular session.

…I want play it soon. I think I'm getting addicted.

As I was thinking about the idols, a white window popped up on the screen.

[You have a new message]

was written on the screen.

Ah, that's right, it's the SNS app that Rio begged me to install. Rio used this app, and she wanted me to get this so she can contact me any time.

What is she planning to talk to me about?

I tapped the screen and it let out a *Chon!* sound.

Rio: [Thank you for today. Leo would also like to have your contact information as well, can I tell him? He said he'd like to be your underling.]

Oh, that's it? *I don't mind*, I replied.

I'm even revered as an *aniki.* Whatever, I think I just gained an underling.

Rio: [Also, here, a gift as a thanks for today]

Gift?

A link was attached to the message… probably a link for a picture. Is it maybe some sort of a picture of a vow to rehabilitate where King Leo quickly dyed his hair black

again at his house?

Thinking and feeling like a teacher who had changed a delinquent's life around with his own hands, I tapped open the link.

What appeared was a photo.

But it's a a photo full of danger.

Keisuke: "PPFFFT!?"

The linked picture was a selfie of Rio.

A photo of Saitou Rio (16) boldly exposing her chest with the buttons of her blazer taken off.

The collar of her Y-shirt is pulled by her index finger, emphasizing her cleavage.

Her white bra was peeking out, creating an unhealthy situation that can't be ignored.

(Stop it! Are you trying to kill me socially?!)

Isn't this bad if I'm found in possession of a production of child photography?

They'll totally lock me up if they follow the message log.

If I'm caught with these charges then my parents will bawl.

I'll be eliminated, you hear? Eliminated!

As I sent a reply saying *This isn't funny, stop it!*, she replied [Looking for older boyfriend].

It might look like a scene from a Shoujo manga in your head, but it's an opening scene of a crime documentary in my end!

Please give me a break.

As I was scuffling with my phone, Angelica's lazy voice echoed from outside, saying

“I’m done~”.

I got up with a wobble and headed out.

My body can fight against armed yakuzas, but right now I’m unbearably fatigued.

Angelica: “You have a good taste, father. Every single one of them are cute. I like them all.”

As I returned to the living room, Angelica was smiling ear-to-ear next to the bed.

When she saw me, she spread her arms and spun in a semicircle. It’s like she’s showing her brand new clothes to her boyfriend, “How is it? Does it suit me?”

She wore a grey parka as her top.

Her bottom is covered by a black skirt made of tight materials. It extends as far as her knees. I’m not knowledgeable about this, but I’m sure it’s fashionable.

Her legs are wrapped with jet-black tights since it seems that it’ll be cold around these times.

Angelica: “Ehehe. I didn’t expect you to even buy me underwear.”

Keisuke: “Yes, yes, it suits you very well. Very cute, very cute.”

Angelica: “Reallyy? The skirt is pretty short, so I think some bold things may happen though.”

Keisuke: “Hahaha. No matter how short a daughter’s skirt is, a father is a creature that won’t falter you know.”

Angelica: “I tried my best and wore while reading its instructions in the wrappings, but these socks are convenient, aren’t they. It’s thin but it’s very warm~”

Keisuke: “Right? My homeworld’s technological power is amazing.”

Angelica lightly lifted up her skirt, “My lower body is completely covered, so it’ll be fine if I spin around, right?” and said such, showing me glances of what’s underneath.

Keisuke: “Don’t do that outside, okay? Look, there’s also sweets in your souvenirs. Let’s eat it together.”

Angelica: “Hey, father,”

Keisuke: “What is it?”

Angelica: “Why are you still calm after all of my indecent appeals?”

Keisuke: “It’s because I’m an adult and I’m interested in people with the same age as me.”

Angelica: “Hmmm”

Angelica narrows her eyes and glared at me.

Angelica: “Somehow I feel like your eyes are saying [*I’ve just seen something more amazing so this ain’t nothing*] though. Is it just me, I wonder?”

Keisuke: “T-there’s no way that’s true.”

Angelica held her hands behind her and asked “Is that so~?” while slouching forward.

Keeping that pose, she circled the room, saying “So suspicious~”, sending sidelong glances as well.

It’s like she’s a detective cornering a perpetrator who’s playing dumb after finding evidence here and there.

Angelica: “I actually found it, you know?”

Keisuke: “…found what?”

Angelica: “After I rummaged the paper bag, I fou~nd this”

Angelica pulled out a strand of hair from her pocket.

A strand of long, black, straight, hair.

It certainly is an evidence that it comes from a pretty girl.

It's none other than Rio's hair. A strand of smooth, *long straight hair. (TLN: he said this in English*).

Angelica: "Father."

Keisuke: "…yes."

Angelica: "You got a girl to buy these clothes, right? For a middle-aged man, the choice suspiciously fits a girl's too well."

Keisuke: "You see… I'd be too embarrassed to buy a girls' panties, and I wouldn't know what would be good, right?"

Angelica: "Was she pretty?"

Keisuke: "Umm… not really… it's the girl around here, you know?"

Angelica: "She resembles Elsa-san, didn't she?"

Keisuke: "How'd you know?"

I totally got you now, she declared, *I didn't expect to hit bullseye but I did*.

Angelica: "As I thought, father likes black-haired girls."

Keisuke: "I'm telling you that's not it! Why do you look like you're about to cry!?"

Angelica: "Is she your girlfriend? She is, isn't she? It's been a year since you returned to this world, right? Of course you would have gotten a lover, right?"

I've been asked if I had a girlfriend twice in a day. This is definitely a first.

The only people who asked about my private life had been the police though.

Even though I wasn't interested in anything other than the police questioning.

How do I even deal with situations like this?

Angelica: "…You're free to do what you want, right? I'm not father's lover or anything."

Keisuke: "Well, yeah."

Angelica: "I'm just one-sidedly saying that I love you, but father doesn't think anything of me, right?"

Keisuke: "…it's not like I don't think anything of you…"

Really? Angelica asked as if she's squeezing out her voice.

Angelica: "…you don't think I'm to your interest, so you won't do anything… isn't that right?

"Keisuke: "You're wrong. D-don't cry. You really are charming, you know. That's why I have to do my best trying to hold back my desire here. I think that girls your age are charming, but if I lay my hands on you, my guilt would be greater afterwards and I'll hate myself. That's why I'm not doing anything. Do you understand? Okay? This is my problem, and not Ange's fault."

I wonder what I'm blabbering excuses for.

An adult man, trying to suck up to a young girl in her teenage years. What a thing.

Even though he's a hero as well. Even though he had the power to change the terrain.

He's completely used in the matter of interpersonal relationships.

Angelica: "…do you really think I'm charming?"

Absolutely, I nodded strongly.

Angelica then gripped the hem of her clothes and sat on the bed.

She then continued and laid face-up.

Angelica: "…then, please do it."

Do it? Do what?

Angelica: "…Today, what you did to the owner of that hair… please do to me what you did to that girl."

Keisuke: "What did you say?"

Angelica closed her eyes tightly and exclaimed while she blushed up to her ears.

Angelica: "You did lots and lots of lewd things, didn't you!? If that's so, then please do it to me too! Then I will believe what you said! I will believe that you think I am charming!"

Keisuke: "You… don't act rashly!"

Angelica: "Right here! Right now! I will steal father away! From that black-haired woman!"

<Party Member, **Sacred Maiden Angelica**'s *Desire to Monopolize* has risen to **600**>

<**Angelica**'s *sexual arousal* has reached **70%**>

<Requirements for *consensual sexual actions* met. Do you proceed?>

<If proceeded, there is a constant probability of conceiving>

<The child conceived would gain combined status pattern of both parents; some skills would be inherited, and equipment and item sharing is possible>

<Assignment of child's class is also possible>

<**Angelica**'s *sexual arousal* has reached **71%**>

<**Angelica**'s *sexual arousal* has reached **72%**>

<**Angelica**'s *sexual arousal* has reached **73%**>

As always, this insensitive system message always asks me what I want to do with my life.

I closed the windows briskly as my temper rises.

Alright then, I'll play along with your little game.

I sat next to Angelica and said "Don't regret this".

Keisuke: "I expect that you've resolved yourself, right? I will now do onto you what I did to that black-haired girl, Ange. Over, and over again. Are you sure this is what you want?"

Angelica silently shook her head vertically.

Keisuke: "It might hurt, you know?"

Angelica: "…I have steeled myself."

Keisuke: "Alright,"

I said thus as I tapped her shoulder.

Keisuke: "Well then, tomorrow we'll exterminate some ghosts."

Angelica: "Eh?"

Keisuke: "You see, today, a girl named Rio asked me to help her save her kidnapped brother."

Angelica: "…kidnapped?"

Keisuke: "Basically, it was an adventure to fight some villains. Ange wants to do the same thing, right? Tomorrow, you and I will find and exorcise bad ghosts, or something like that."

Angelica: "I-I don't believe that!"

Keisuke: "Then I'll let you meet this girl, her brother, and the idiots that I beat up; everyone will testify for me! Come on, now! It's *Ghost Buster*! Eat, sleep properly, and prepare yourself!"

Angelica: “Eeh~…”

While Angelica was crying *no horror stuff~!*, a part of her looked relieved.

CHAPTER 18
THE STRANGER

This parallel world is boring.

I want to go home. I want to meet mom and dad. I want to play games again.

I want to go to school.

I don't want to see any more goblins, orcs, dragons or dragons.

They're trying to kill me first anyways.

As soon as they see my face they'll rush in and attack, trying to sink their fangs into my throat.

It's because I'm a Hero summoned from Japan.

It's because I'm the army general.

I am the enemy of every monster, and I am the ally of every humans.

Not an individual, but a public figure.

No, I'm just a public property.

I'm not much different than a public road or a public lavatory.

But that's the sort of character a Hero is.

It's like I'm an infrastructure, not even a human anymore.

My failure is grieved by the country, and my success is celebrated by the country.

That's why I have to be strong.

Stronger, and even stronger. To an even higher limit.

Training myself like that, I became the strongest Hero.

I was moulded into an ideal hero that everyone wishes for.

Every part that can't fit into that mould were cut and thrown away.

The me who was a kid.

The me who was Japanese.

The me who was a normal, middle-schooler, who had a girl I liked, who wanted to be a game designer in the future.

Those were all irrelevant, so they were torn off and thrown away.

For every one thrown away, I became stronger, yet I turned into someone else.

It's not just my heart,

but even my body was replaced too.

My arm was cut off by a fire dragon, but it was regrown with magic. The one that fell off was thrown to temporarily blind the dragon.

My legs were attacked by gargoyles, and as expected, I lost them. These, too, was regrown by magic.

At last, my head was taken as well. There was the me who rolled around as I was uprooted from my neck, and there was the me who was regrown into it.

I wondered in which brain my soul is dwelling in.

I don't quite understand.

The original body that my parents gave birth to has mostly been lost in battle.

A larger part of me right now has been rebuilt by magic.

The total number of magic castles destroyed and rebuilt by me was ten.

The number of castles I protected was six.

I did my best, didn't I? So could you see me as Nakamoto Keisuke soon?

Not as a hero, but just as Keisuke?

Haven't you had enough of treating me as a hero that can be used by anyone?

That's right, what Hero? What do you mean, *Hero*?

Eat shit!

Don't you know how much suffering has it been? How painful has it been? How lonely has it been? You don't even know, do you?

Tell me, where is the real me?

That's been long gone, hasn't it? All you have is a hero that's been remade by magic, right?

Hero-sama, the ladies said with coaxing voices.

Hero-dono, the royalties called with flattering smiles.

"Hero" is an honorary title, so they thought calling me by that word would please me. These otherworlders thought they're being considerate without knowing anything.

Someone, please call me by my name. The name my parents gave me. The name that reminds me of my homeland.

Please.

Someone.

Before I start forgetting my own name.

—It was then, when I met a certain slave.

???: “Who are you?”

The slave’s name is Elza. Before she was old enough to understand what was going on around her, she was kidnapped to a goblin’s nest.

She was the same age as I was; 17.

The girl had long black hair and a fleeting look. Her eyes seem lonely, and her thin body was full of bruises.

When Elza was kidnapped, she couldn’t escape the den even once.

A goblin’s nest is normally enveloped by darkness. An environment ill-fitted to be raised in.

Yet the cavern where Elza was kidnapped to had a great collapse.

Basking in the light pouring in, she was able to miraculously survive.

Being in an age where she can do menial work, she was enslaved by the goblins.

Not being able to read or write, not receiving any baptism, she was kept for mere hard labor, or a tool to vent their anger.

Because of that, she couldn’t think of herself as a person.

The worst part is that she was convinced that she was a “weird-faced goblin”.

To her, I was simply “Nakamoto Keisuke”.

She probably never heard the term “Hero” ever since she was born.

It was a new feeling when I evaporated the group of goblins in front of her and she didn’t worship me as a hero.

Keisuke: “I’m Nakamoto Keisuke.”

Elza: “Nah-cah-moe-toe Kay-soo-kay? *(TLN: She said his name in Katakana, outlining that she didn’t understand names)*

Keisuke: “It’s alright, the goblins that kidnapped you from your parents had been eliminated.”

Elza: “But I’m also a goblin?”

Keisuke: “You are the same as me, a human.”

Her eyes opened wide in astonishment. *I am human*, she said, repeating over and over.

Keisuke: “The goblins that has been beating you is gone. I’ll remove your shackles. You’re free from now on.”

Elza: “What is *free*?”

Keisuke: “If you want to know what that means, come and follow me. We’ll go to a human village together. Do you not want to?”

Elza: “… I want to.”

The two exited the den, and a carriage to pick them up stopped.

Looking at the differences in the looks of me and the coachman, Elza tilted her head in confusion.

What ensued was hectic.

It was because I needed to start the long fight for returning Elza back into human society.

I needed to remove the goblin’s barbaric habits and make a woman out of her.

I don’t need to say how hectic it was.

Everyday from the sunrise to sundown, I taught her letters and table manners.

I was so strict in her training that she might have thought that she’d better off living as a goblin.

Before long, the time Elza spent looking at my face increases.

I thought she resented me.

If only you didn't stick your nose where it doesn't belong, I could have continued living as a goblin.

I thought that was the reason.

But that wasn't it.

In a beautiful night bright with moonlight, Elza stopped me on my tracks.

Keisuke: "Why is Kaysuke different from the others? Kaysuke's face is a bit more flat. Skin color is also yellowish. Different from others. Different from me. Where did you come from?"

Facing Elza's questions, I simply answered, *Japan*.

Keisuke: "It's a world different from this one."

Far away place? Elza asked back.

Keisuke: "Very far."

Elza: "How far?"

Keisuke: "As far as I can't get back here anymore if I go."

Elza: "Do the people in Jah-pan look similar to Kaysuke?"

Keisuke: "Yeah. Everyone looks similar to me… since we're of the same race. There are a lot of people who look exactly like me."

But there were nobody that looked like me in that parallel world.

I spontaneously burst into tears.

Why so sudden…? Even though I'm a man, how pathetic.

As I was busy scrubbing my eyes, Elza briskly hugged me.

Elza: “I was the same. I lived thinking that I looked different than the others. I was separated from my family, told to do things I didn’t like, so I understand how Kaysuke feels.”

For the first time in three years I’ve been summoned to this world, I cried my heart out.

Since then, I talked a lot to Elza.

She was interested. She was someone who I could say my true thoughts to. She was an affable girl.

It didn’t take long for us to become lovers.

Keisuke: “Elza is the only one who’s been treating me as Keisuke.”

Elza: “The only one who told me that I’m not a female goblin is also Kaysuke, while everyone else was creeped out by me.”

Keisuke: “There are no place for us in this world.”

Elza: “…there is. When we stay close together, I feel like this is where we belong. Wherever we are together, that place is where we belong.”

Keisuke: “You’re a lot cooler than I am, you know that? If you were living as a human from the beginning, I can’t imagine how successful you will be.”

Elza: “I don’t care about success. I don’t care where I am in society as long as I am with you. I don’t even care if I’m a slave.”

The night I was connected with Elza, I was convinced

that right now in this moment, we returned to being humans. From a goblin to a human, and from a Hero to a human.

Elza. For you, I can do anything.

As long as you're here, I won't need anything else.

I'm convinced that I was sent to this world to protect you.

CHAPTER 19
REBELLIOUS PHASE!

Somehow I saw a very nostalgic dream.

But right after I woke up, it disappeared from my head.

All that was left is the memory that I remembered something.

It's a mirage that's irritating and lonely, flickering in my brain.

Perhaps it was correct for me to forget it.

If the dream was sad, I'm pretty sure it'll drag me down for the whole day.

Besides, everything I see in my dreams are those I want to close my eyes from anyways.

I bet the dream I have this morning is also a nightmare.

Though in an extremely rare occasions, I could also have a happy dream.

Yes, for example, a dream about when I saved Elza from the goblin nest. I wonder when was the last time I had a dream like that.

That sight was the sparkling moment in between the harsh life in that other world, I don't mind looking at as much as I could.

I stretched myself on top of the bed and turned off the alarm clock.

It's six thirty two. I woke up a lot earlier than the time I set up.

Today I have a day off from my part time work, so it should be fine if I sleep a bit more.

After passing late twenties, I can't seem to sleep for a long time anymore.

I wonder if it's the effect of aging process.

Seems like you need some strength and youth just to sleep.

On the contrary, Angelica is sleeping soundly to my side.

…Isn't it bad if this kid is sleeping next to me in the same bed?

There are physical limit since this room doesn't have enough space, though so we can't help it.

There's no telling when someone might be mistaken about this, so we should resolve

this problem soon.

Also I'm suspicious if this kid is touching me all around when I'm asleep.

Somehow late last night I heard some rustling sound and felt someone was touching me.

I mean, I understand that the male body is unusual, but this is a breach of manners, you know.

I can still let it slide if it's my upper body you're touching, but if it's about the lower body I'll be sure to resist.

I thought of that while looking at her sleeping face that hasn't grown into that of an adult's.

She's a young girl, and I'm an old man.

I should be guiding her to the right way no matter the cost.

You should come to like another man properly.

Today, I'm bringing Angelica outside of the apartment.

If I make her wear clothes to make her look like a modern person, so she look like any other girls.

It will also be the first time in Angelica's life when she would see young men of the same age.

Someone might also be hitting on her… but that's fine.

A girl who were raised in a completely segregated environment, a sacred maiden.

A maiden raised to please the gods.

She's an offering to the gods to give the people some peace of mind.

She's a person that is like a public property to represent humanity.

She should try and regain the youth she lost in this world.

If she can be taken by a young good-looking man, I might be a bit vexing, but it's for Angelica's sake.

I finished dressing up and quickly made breakfast.

After I did, I went to wake Angelica.

I shook her shoulders.

Keisuke: "It's morning", I said with a quiet voice.

Her reply was "Mmmm—", a grumbling voice. just like a cat.

Even though it'll be better if she's really just a cat.

Being a foreign girl is only a disadvantage.

She had no passport nor a visa, but she had the looks of a foreign girl.

If she wants to try to live in modern Japan, she'll be followed by an absurd amount of hardships.

The pain of living as a foreign being is hard, and I learned it the hard way.

I have to create an appropriate place for this child to live. I have to.

As I clenched my fist and regained my spirits,, I woke up Angelica.

Keisuke: "Good morning, Ange."

Angelica: "Good morning… isn't this quite early…?"

She sluggishly went to the bathroom with a drowsy look and I saw her off. In the meantime, I reviewed today's schedule.

First of all, I'll be using the *Perception* skill to search the area around the house and look for the ghost.

Afterwards we will search the town.

Finally, I need to ~~threaten~~ persuade Gondou to prepare identification papers for Angelica.

That's about it I think. I finished my thought as I sipped my coffee.

There might be an antisocial way of thinking mixed in, but I've thought of this before.

But that's fine.

I'll ruin my life as much as needed, I mean my life has already ended anyways.

This is a gift from daddy to Angelica who still had a lot more future to experience.

As I solemnly thought so, Angelica came flying at me with her eyes closed.

Her face looks like she just found something good.

Keisuke: "What is it?"

Angelica: "Stubble~ Stubble~ Rough beard~"

While humming something strange, she stroked my chin.

Angelica: "I wanted to touch it before you shave."

Angelica wholeheartedly felt the sensation of the rough skin of men that was unusual to her.

…If you think of it that way, then I can understand it, but this is kind of bad for my heart.

I can smell the shampoo and conditioner that she used yesterday.

I wonder why Angelica smells really nice.

Even that time when I met her, she already does.

Even though she was from another world, she wasn't much different than a modern-day high school girls, she smells sweet and hygienic.

That place didn't have anything but soaps though.

Maybe right after she was summoned into my room, she took a shower first without my permission? Or so I thought.

But that wouldn't be possible.

I mean, she couldn't even twist the faucet until I told her how to.

Angelica: "Dad? you stopped moving, you know?"

While she was pressing on my cheek, my eyes met with hers.

Her large, green eyes.

Keisuke: "Is it really that interesting to rub the stubbles on your cheek?"

Angelica: "Very much!"

Her breathing is getting rough… she's totally a molester.

If our gender and age are reversed, she would be the one that will be arrested.

Keisuke: "… Ange, I'm the first man you've ever seen, right?"

Angelica: "True."

Keisuke: "You should've had more reactions to it, right? Don't you feel scared, or weirded out? I thought normally a girl would have her fear preceding her curiosity."

She immediately got used to touching and looking at me in a weird way.

If your first contact with an alien ended up with him being horny, what would you think?

If I think of it that way, I would be left in fear.

Looking at me that had a fearful look in my eye, Angelica lets go of my face and said,

Angelica: “It’s because I at least had a knowledge on how you look.”

Did they have sex education in the temple?

Well, if she didn’t, she couldn’t have assaulted me, so probably she did.

It seems like she understood what would be considered embarrassing or not.

Angelica: “There were a lot of paintings and sculptures of male gods in the temple. Even if I am a sacred maiden, I know what sort of figure a man has.”

Keisuke: “So you studied from that, huh?”

Angelica: “The day they brought in a nude sculpture of a man, the maidens were all throwing a fuss. They were all eagerly looking closely at it.”

Keisuke: “I wish I didn’t know that…”

The image of the girls’ flower garden is now in ruins.

Angelica: “Eh, is that really so? I mean, everyone surrounded the sculpture and touched it all over.”

Keisuke: “Just like high school girls, huh?”

Angelica: “We didn’t feel anything when we touched the stone sculpture, because here weren’t any smells or sounds or anything.”

That’s why I like you better~, she said with a huge smile as she continued rubbing my chin.

Or rather than smiling, she looks like she’s about to melt.

Keisuke: “You’re making a face you shouldn’t be showing to people.”

Angelica: “But I’m in bliss～”

To be able to get a father who is kind enough to let me touch him all I want, I’m such a blessed daughter, Angelica murmured.

I’m not that admirable of a parent though.

Yet you still want to hold me? Even though this is how I am?

I unintentionally reached my right hand toward Angelica’s cheek. This is bad, what am I doing?

I myself might be remembering how lonely it feels for someone to let you go.

Keisuke: “…Do you remember, Ange? We’re going out today. There’ll be a lot younger men than me walking around outside.”

Angelica: “Eh?”

Keisuke: “You look happy aren’t you? Are you looking forward to it?”

Angelica nodded, and I caressed her cheeks.

I’ve completely turned into someone sexually harassing her daughter, huh?

This’ll be the last time, so please forgive me for now.

Keisuke: “If you found a good man out there, it’s okay to go on with him you know?”

Angelica: “…?”

Angelica’s expression disappears as if she’s about to say *I don’t understand.*

Keisuke: “I’ll be taking care of the various things to allow you to live in this world. I’ll send you everything you’ll need later on.”

Angelica: “… why are you saying such a thing?”

Keisuke: “I don’t have a lot of money, and I’m also past my thirties. If you can find a young men perfect for you, you’ll be better off staying with him.”

Angelica: “Am I a bother to you? Are you saying that you want me to get out of here?”

Keisuke: “Certainly not!”

Being with you is fun. That’s especially why,

Keisuke: “I’m saying this because I care about you, do you understand?”

Angelica’s answer was… to put my finger in her mouth.

Angelica: “Nyoh.”

Keisuke: “… you can’t really say anything with that, can you?”

While sucking on my finger, Angelica continued.

Angelica: “Nyo way. I will not be fall for any other men.”

She's not a very obedient daughter. I warned her that if it wasn't me, other men would be assaulting her right now.

Angelica: "It's okay if dad assaults me!"

I made a face that says *you're saying all this despite being a virgin?*

Angelica: "I don't need younger men! I only want you to fill the role of a boyfriend and a father… besides, I like daddy's taste the best… fufu, your face is turning red, daddy."

CHAPTER 20
I WON'T COMPROMISE!

Angelica is engaging in a furious courtship with upturned eyes; she's getting so dangerous that it's impossible to look at her directly anymore.

I turned my eyes away in vain.

This type of thing isn't fair you know. If someone found us like this, I might be arrested.

…arrested.

That's right.

If you think about it calmly, I've been having my finger sucked by a 16-year-old foreign girl since early morning.

If you check my communications history in my phone, there was a selfie of Rio flashing her bare chest as well.

The other day, I raided a Yakuza's office, and the day before that, I had a fight with high schoolers.

…huh?

't I someone worse than Gondou then?

In just a few days I've become a medalist for crime Olympics haven't I?

I've accelerated through that like I've been suspected of doping, haven't I?

I've been removing the competition one by one, haven't I?

I've long surpassed the pervert who flashes his lower body in the side of the road, and all that's left in front of me is just some famous serial killers, isn't it?

Wait, I don't even want to see what the assembly hall for the contestants look like. It'll be hell.

Keisuke: “How did I end up with this…”

I slowly set my gaze downwards.

Still sunken in sorrow, I pulled my finger out of Angelica’s mouth.

Keisuke: “Let’s eat breakfast. You won’t fill your stomach just sucking on a finger, right?”

Angelica: “S-Sorry dad. Do you hate it? You look very sad. Even if you’re a man, you felt bad when I suddenly did that, didn’t you? That’s right, isn’t it? I won’t do it again, so please don’t hate me.”

Keisuke: “It’s not your fault, Ange. I just remembered some stuff and got depressed instead.”

Angelica: “…Remembered something?”

Ah, I get it! You’re mistaking me with Elza-san, right? She said, being completely wrong while she regained her spirit instantly regardless.

Angelica: “Fufu~n. It’s alright you know~ you can continue doing that some more. You remembered your previous girlfriend didn’t you~ If you do that, then~ please can think of me as the next Elza-san and quickly fall for me, okay?”

Keisuke: “Why are you talking cheeky even though you have no experience with love?”

I managed to eat my breakfast despite Angelica clinging onto me even intensely than before.

I brushed my teeth and rested my belly shortly.

As I laze about, the time turned half past 7.

Keisuke: “Shall we go soon?”

I said to Angelica and get to change my clothes.

I wore a black turtleneck with jeans, a combination that looks a bit flashy.

But since I'm covering it with a coat above them, it doesn't really matter.

Or so I thought, but this coat looks pretty shabby.

On the other hand, Angelica is wearing the parka and skirt I just bought her yesterday, and she looks sparkling in it.

This is bad,

Angelica looks like a fashion magazine model but I look like a homeless guy.

If the two of us walk side-by-side, I don't know how people will see our relationship.

…a Christian foreign official and me being a vagrant guarding and guiding her to a food donation…?

Keisuke: "This is too awful. Very much so."

Angelica: "?"

As I was drowning in the ditch thanks to my own persecution complex, we went out of the front door.

I should pay attention to how I look just a bit more.

Ah heck, what am I doing being all gloomy the first thing in the morning.

Today I'm supposed to be going to investigate about the ghost issues with Angelica.

Angelica is slightly late after me to come out, so afterwards I locked the door and set off.

It seems like there's been a lot of thieves lately, so I should really be careful.

Angelica: “Is that the lock of this world?”

Keisuke: “That’s right. Not that much different than the locks on that world, right?”

As I was crouching to lock the door, our eyes fell on the door next to ours.

A huge amount of newspapers are jammed into its mail slot. At this rate it’ll be so full that everything would spill out.

To be honest, it’s been like this for the past few days as well.

Despite me and Angelica making a lot of noises, there hasn’t been any response from the resident, so I thought the resident has always been absent from home.

Perhaps they’re out on a trip?

But would an unmarried old man be out sightseeing?

I unintentionally thought of something awful.

Like for example, he got a cold so bad was bedridden and can’t take his newspaper or something.

And without me knowing, he might have been sent into a hospital.

…or perhaps he died a solitude death. Perhaps.

Maybe I should say something to the landlord.

As I was busy hesitating, Angelica had descended the staircase before me.

Angelica: “Outside, outside~!” Angelica said with high spirits.

Can’t be helped.

Even though she came to another country different from hers but she ended up being confined so it’s not that strange for her to end up like this.

Keisuke: “You didn’t know anything about Japan, right? I’ll guide you around, so wait for me.”

I chased after her who was rushing ahead.

As I walked by her side, Angelica linked our arms together as if it’s the natural thing to do.

Angelica: “I have wanted to do this for so long. I thought that I have lived in the temple full of girls, so I’ve always yearned of walking hand-in-hand with a man”, she said with a fleeting smile. Just for a bit, her eyes and nose turned red.

She looked happy, but at the same time, she looked sad.

What she felt at the moment are probably not the feeling of love nor interest toward the opposite sex.

Perhaps it’s happiness and a sense of accomplishment from the fact that she regained the life she’d lost.

Just like when I regained my life as Keisuke rather than a hero, thanks to Elza.

In her case, perhaps she regained her life as Angelica rather than the Sacred Maiden.

Right now, I reaffirmed my decision to make sure that Angelica doesn’t look like an escort at all costs.

Keisuke: “Leave it to me, today we won’t just be exterminating ghosts. I’ll make sure you’ll be having fun.”

Angelica: “Dad?”

Keisuke: “Aah, um… we’re going to do… date-like things, okay?”

It’s just because she showed me that she was about to cry.

The time you lost when you should’ve been spending with your father or your lover, I’ll make sure I can compensate them with these hands of mine.

Just for today, I'll be your dad and your boyfriend. It's special for today, okay? For real.

Angelica: "What happened? Am I acting too similarly with Elza-san?"

Keisuke: "You're still sticking to that joke? It has nothing to do with Elza. I am not mistaking you for Elza's shadow."

That's because that role is already fulfilled by Rio. I mean, her face is too similar to Elza.

Keisuke: "Ange is Ange, not a replacement for Elza."

Angelica: "Hmmm…?"

Keisuke: "I want to go on a date with you because you're Ange."

Angelica: "H… hmmm."

Keisuke: "Oh, your face is turning red. It's a payback for earlier, you know?"

Angelica: "H-Hmhmhmhmmm…"

That's not an interjection anymore, it's a hum at this point.

As I saw Angelica who tried to hide her trembling by sounding weird, I now understand the joy of teasing a younger girl.

Oi oi, aren't I supposed to like women that are around her thirties? At best this is only to help rehabilitate Angelica's life, don't forget that, I told myself.

Keisuke: "Let's start investigating first. The date can be right after… no, we can just cast the *Perception* spell as we walk around. Can you do that?"

Angelica: "I have some MP, so I can manage."

Keisuke: "Alright. Ah, before that, I should dispel the *Sacred Circle*."

If she did, she'll be warding the evil spirits away just by walking around.

Our objective is to find them and exterminate them, if we ended up driving them away, there's no meaning to it.

We both closed our eyes and concentrated our minds to the skill.

Angelica's Perception *and* Barrier Magic *is activated,* I received a notification from the system.

The preparation is done.

Combining our skills together, we begin walking.

Moving away from our apartment, we proceeded through the road.

All the while, I taught Angelica about who asked "What's that?" every once in a while about everything she asked about.

Angelica: "All of the roads are paved, is this a very rich country?"

Keisuke: "The economy has been pretty bad for almost 25 years, but this is still the third best country in the world in the scale of economy."

Angelica: "Hee… eh? Then does that mean dad is quite a noble?"

Keisuke: "I'm just a middle-class. Middle-class, I tell you,"

We chatted as we proceed down the road, passing through several young men as we did.

But Angelica lost interest very soon.

At first, she turned her eyes to look at them, but she quickly lost interest.

Yet her eyes keep following the elderly or middle-aged men.

Keisuke: "You'll be fine with anyone older, huh?"

Angelica: "No, that's not it."

Don't you think the are a lot of elderly population? Angelica stared at the elderly people, looking like she's very interested in them.

Angelica: "It'll be better if there are more children and younger people around, or so I thought."

Keisuke: "You're quite perceptive, huh."

It's in the middle of winter vacation, so we couldn't find a lot of younger people.

On the other hand, a lot of elderly people are often seen taking a walk.

During long vacations, there are a lot of students who are asleep during the day, but this is certainly weird from the perspective of a person from another world.

Old people are also a rare sight in that world. In a village, there's either a few people or none at all.

For a world with high birthrate and high death rate, there are an overwhelming amount of younger people.

It's obvious why Angelica would be confused.

Keisuke: "There is simply more number of elderly people. Our country has a rapidly aging population; one in four people living here is above 65 years old."

Angelica: "Eeh! How did that happen?"

Keisuke: "People have long lifespan. It's normal for men to live up to 80 years old, while women can live until their late 80s."

Angelica: "Is this country a place where the people had Elven blood?"

What an explanation.

It's because of the development of technology and medical care, so a lot of diseases are eradicated and so forth.

It's also perhaps because of the improvement of conditions of our food, and also our

welfare system.

The history followed by humanity on earth can endlessly be explained.

It's an information we were taught post-middle school, so we would worry if it is true or not.

Angelica: "Haa… The humans on earth did a lot of hard work, didn't they?"

Keisuke: "Yeah. I see you've managed to remember some words I taught you."

Angelica: "We're on earth, specifically in Japan. I remembered it. Are there any other points to understand?"

Keisuke: "There's no more. If you need to know it, I will tell you."

She's young and she has a strong thirst for knowledge.

The brain power of a person before twenties are like a sponge. They absorb anything.

She's so great and bright that I was dazzled.

Angelica somehow was narrowing her eyes as well and looking at me.

Rather than thinking I was bright, she looked at me as if she's sympathizing me.

Is my clothing too tacky that she felt pitiful?

Keisuke: "Is there anything on my face?"

Angelica: "It's a pity for you, dad."

Keisuke: "Is it really my clothing?"

Angelica: "Clothes?"

She tilts her head as if asking *what are you talking about?*

Keisuke: "If it's not my clothes than what are you pitying me for?"

Angelica: “For what dad’s been through.”

Keisuke: “What do you mean?”

Angelica’s blue eyes are glued onto mine. There’s a light in it that indicates her strong will.

Angelica: “Monsters don’t appear in this country, and there are no wars. It’s wealthy, everyone are taught to read and write. It has such long life expectancy that there are a lot of old people and it’s the norm while the people’s happiness are fulfilled. That is true, right?”

Keisuke: “If you put it that way, it feels like this is a terribly blessed country.”

“It is very blessed.”

Angelica asserted without losing her point.

Angelica: “If you weren’t summoned to our world, you could’ve lived in peace in this world, you know? Perhaps you could have been married by a woman in this world and have some children. After several years you would turn eighty and pass on, leaving behind a lot of fortune. Yet you were deprived of that sort of life and became a hero… and you even lost Elza-san whom you had an encounter with.”

Keisuke: “It’s all in the past. I don’t pay it any mind anymore. Besides, if I continue living here, I would have been a boring office worker.”

That was a lie.

There’s no one who hated the other world summoning more than I do.

But being an adult is to not show it to everyone.

Keisuke: “Our talk had gotten heavy, isn’t it? Let’s change the subject. Did you catch anything with your *Perception*?”

Nothing for now, Angelica turned her head to the side.

At the same time, she held both of my hands.

Angelica: “Dad, please don’t forget… until dad had thrown everything away, your reward for defeating the demon lord is me. My youth and my body are offered for you, you know?”

While looking at the leaves dancing in the wind, I answered,

Keisuke: “You shouldn’t forget too. For every time you spent being a Sacred Maiden who answers to your people’s beliefs, I want you spend your time in this world experiencing the happiness of a woman. Look for a younger, cooler man to fall for and go out with him.”

Angelica: “…We’re saying quite the same thing, didn’t we?”

Keisuke: “Hm? Is that so? Perhaps we’re similar to each other in a way.”

Unfortunately we couldn’t find anything here either.

We couldn’t find a line of compromise between us, and we couldn’t find the ghosts we were looking for.

CHAPTER 21
THE BOOKSTORE IN TOWN

We went out to the front of the station.

I made the decision thinking that if we change the place, we might change the mood as well.

Or rather, please change the mood already. I'm begging you.

I had already lowered my head but all that did is reduce the number of words Angelica spoke.

Keisuke: "I'm sorry. I don't really understand, but you're mad, aren't you? Please cheer up and get noisy again."

Angelica: "But I'm not mad though."

Keisuke: "Then what gives?"

Angelica: "Blockhead!"

You're the rumored blockhead, aren't you! Angelica said, raising her voice.

Angelica: "You're the type of genius who's humble to a fault, aren't you dad?"

Keisuke: "If I don't, I won't be fit for being a hero."

Angelica: "I've decided. No matter what you say or no matter how much you dislike it, I'm staying together with you. I'm going to look after you even in your old age. I won't be married into any families, okay?"

But why? I was perplexed while I kept moving.

We continued walking for maybe about an hour and a half.

As we loitered around the station with *Perception* active, before we know it, we got to

the street lined with business hotels.

During those times, Angelica was mostly silent. She was just puffing her cheeks with a *humph*.

Keisuke: “The stores are opening, shall we go shopping?”

Angelica: “…”

Keisuke: “Do you have anything you want to buy?”

Angelica: “…nothing really—”

Your face and your voice shows that you’re mad, but your arm are squeezing me tightly though.

She’s pushing her breasts on my upper arm. You’re getting closer than you were before, you know?

A woman’s heart is a huge mystery.

I wish the system message could also show me favorability points or the mental state of someone though.

It doesn’t say anything when it’s needed the most.

It doesn’t have a personality in the first place, so it just doesn’t care.

Keisuke: “Hey, then let’s talk about something serious. Have you found the apparition, ghost or spectre yet?”

Angelica: “…There’s none at all though.”

Keisuke: “Is that so. Where could it be hiding?”

As I put my hand to my chin and thought about it, Angelica “Ah,” let out a voice.

Keisuke: “What is it?”

Angelica: “That’s so cute. I want to go in there!”

Did she find a sweets shop or something?

As I thought of those idyllic picture, I turned my face toward where Angelica is pointing.

Beyond her thin index finger was an artificial scenery.

A group of grey buildings, a disheartening parking lot, and a pink castle.

Between all of these, the thing that could possibly be called cute by a girl would be…

That, isn’t it?

The fancy building with pink roof sticks out in between the grey townscape.

The modern architecture looked like a mess compared to the medieval castle.

No matter how I look at it, Angelica’s finger is definitely locked on to that building.

Angelica: “That roof is so cute! I want to try going in there. Ahaha, I’m not angry anymore, dad. I was pouting partly because using *Perception* while walking was tiring me out.”

I glanced to the sign next to the castle.

Fashion Hotel Amaryllis.

Service hours: Weekdays, 3560 Yen for 6 hours from 6 A.M~9 P.M. For two people.

Angelica: “Is this a place for you to rest? It’s just the right time, can we rest for a bit? Hey, hey, let’s rest and reconcile… w-why are you making a face like you’re suffering from a great crime?”

Listen here, Ange.

You probably didn’t know so you can smile innocently like that.

This is what we call a Love Hotel.

A girl in her teenage years shouldn't point her fingers at such places in broad daylight

Not to mention while hugging the arm of a middle-aged man like me on top of that.

Especially in this situation where you look like a hostess bringing a customer to work!

Angelica: "Daddy, let's play over there!"

Keisuke: "I'll bring you to any other places, I'll even bring you to the amusement park, so please give up on that!"

Angelica: "Why is thaat? That's fine, isn't it? Hey, papaa~"

Keisuke: "Stop calling me that in front of the hotel! It's not funny! Why are you suddenly calling me papa anyways!?"

Angelica: "Eh? I thought that you would pester me more if I call you that. Do you hate being called papa?"

With mad rush, I pulled Angelica's hand and rushed away from that place.

As I checked my smartphone, the time was around 10 o'clock, a perfect time for the majority of stores to be open.

Keisuke: "Let's go to the bookstore. There are some chairs there too, so we can rest."

Angelica, whose mood completely recovered, called out.

Angelica: "Books? Is that okay? Isn't that a high-class product?"

Keisuke: "In this world, paper isn't that much of a valuable goods."

The moment I came back to Japan, the first thing I thought of doing is to gather information.

What happened between year 2000 and 2017? How has common sense changed? I remembered that I really needed that information.

I thought Angelica too would feel that way.

Keisuke: “You’re interested in a lot of things about this world, right? Let’s buy you some books you can use as a reference.”

Angelica: “As expected of an experienced inter-world traveler. You really understand.

There are various books in my room as well, but I don’t know if it could answer the needs of a teenager like Angelica.

For me, compiling information in between those seventeen years was enough, but for Angelica who had an information gap for several hundred years, she would need several different books.

I also thought of letting her learn through the internet, but that might give her a bad influence.

Judging by her personality, she’s bound to look up some weird videos online.

I also don’t want her to see my personal image folder.

That’s why I chose books.

Angelica: “A place where books are cheap, what a strange world. Does paper fall from the sky like snow?”

Keisuke: “I don’t have enough knowledge to talk about the development of printing technology. For now, let’s go there. You might be able to look it up when we get there.”

Along with the drooping Angelica, we proceed down the road.

We crossed the road intersection, exited the larger roads into a smaller one.

Angelica: “Don’t you think there are gradually less people?”

Keisuke: “It’s because the place we’re going to is a good place but it’s not well known.”

The place I'm going to is not that big of a store.

It's a rather unusual, old, privately managed bookstore under the name of Ootsuki Bookstore.

There's a lot of bargains and the price is affordable so I quite like it.

The interior is also of good taste, so I thought Angelica too would like it.

As I was looking forward to the things I thought of, I felt a sensation of water flowing.

Angelica suddenly stopped walking and strongly pulled my sleeve.

Angelica: "Looks like something's here."

What is? I asked

Angelica: "This is… an unbelievably evil presence."

Keisuke: "We got a catch, huh?"

Angelica's usual brightness were replaced by cold sweat.

Angelica: "This feeling… it's really sickening. What could it be? Even if it's a demon, it shouldn't be this bad."

Keisuke: "Where is it?"

There, Angelica pointed at the store with her trembling fingers.

Where she pointed was the place I was headed.

Yes, the Ootsuki Bookstore.

Keisuke: “No way…”

The secret place I found. My hiding place. My place of comfort.

That is the place where the *Perception* skill is telling us that evil is lurking.

Keisuke: “Are you sure?”

Yes, Angelica nodded.

Angelica: “It’s a slightly different presence than a spiritual body… but no matter what it is, it shouldn’t be able to emit this amount of malice…!”

Keisuke: “But even assuming that it isn’t a ghost, it’s probably the culprit.”

Angelica: “It gives off the impression of controlling a dead spirit through suspicious arts.”

I didn’t want to think about it.

That bookstore had been good to me.

I’m that bizarre customer that somehow has been wanting to know a lot about the Heisei era.

Keisuke: “…So it’s really there.”

I start to feel strength leaving my body.

Keisuke: “Let’s go.”

Encouraged by Angelica, we proceeded with a ghastly stride.

With every step, my body gets colder.

The Ootsuki Bookstore is a modest store made by remodeling a part of a house.

The shopkeeper is a refined lady, and her only daughter Ayako-chan sometimes helps out at the store.

It was a small store protected gently and closely by the pair of mother and daughter.

Perhaps they weren't running it for the profit.

With the shopkeeper's husband being a college professor, they probably had enough income to get by.

They'll laugh saying *we're just lining up the books that our family didn't read anymore.*

It's probably a store established as a hobby.

There's the charm that it's a pretend shop for little girls but in the scale of an adult.

And that warm place… someone is ransacking it.

—I won't forgive you.

Urged by my righteous indignation, I set foot into the store.

???: "… welcome, Nakamoto-san. It has been a while."

Within the smell of old papers, there was a tinge of flowery scent.

This lazy way of speaking belongs to Ayako-chan.

Oh, so today is the daughter's turn to man the store. This is the worst. Of all times, why now?

It's possible that she's here because it's a winter holiday, but I didn't want to think it's true.

Ayako: "Mom has restocked the Heisei-era books again."

Ayako-chan who was smiling was so thin that she could fall over if you push her.

Her unexpectedly large eyes were hidden under her long bangs.

Even under her apron, there are bulges that makes you think she has a good figure, but this isn't the time.

(Dad, it's her)

Angelica whispered.

…What was that?

This seventeen-year-old bookstore clerk, who couldn't meet her eyes with others is hiding malice that are worth a lot of demons?

Keisuke: "There's no way. There's got to be a mistake."

Angelica: "But the *Perception* is reacting to that person! What is this! She is a human, but she doesn't feel like a human!"

Huh? Who might she be…? with her usual whispering voice, Ayako-chan showed her interest in Angelica.

For a foreigner to make a great fuss inside the store, there's no way she wouldn't be.

Angelica: "Dad! Quickly, check her status!"

Keisuke: "…but…"

Angelica: "Hurry! Else I will preemptively attack her with magic!"

Keisuke: "…okay."

With a trembling voice, I murmured, *"Status open"*

As I did, I saw a long window I've never seen before.

It was so long that I can see a scroll bar on the side.

That shows the large amount of notes that it includes.

I need to know the content of that long text, perhaps it shows some sort of threats.

So you are—the main culprit of the ghost uproars?

———————————————————————————————

Name : *Ootsuki Ayako*

Level : *1*

Class : *High School Girl, Bookstore Clerk*

HP: *50*

MP: *0*

Attack: *40*

Defense: *40*

Agility: *40*

Magic Attack: *0*

Magic Defense: *60*

Skill: *Fathercon (Enthusiast)*

Notes:

A Bibliophilic girl. She hardly has any fighting power, rendering her harmless.

However, she is under heavy mental breakdown after having an unrequited love for her biological father.

Knowing that it is a love that cannot be acknowledged, she did not disclose the fact to anyone.

Currently, due to her meeting with Nakamoto Keisuke who is the spiting image her father in his younger ages, he becomes her target for her unrequited love.

Her recent favorite delusion is to wash her body with Keisuke's rough stubble on his chin.

Someday, she would like to drug Keisuke until he drops and play with him as she pleases.

The content of yesterday's indecent imaginations where she violated Keisuke. is as follows;

"Aha~ Daddy Keisuke is a bad person who gets aroused by his daughter.

Even though you know this is wrong, you still see me as a woman?

That's alright, do you want to just lay your hands on this underage girl and lose your job?

Don't worry, even if daddy Keisuke got into a newspaper column, I'm sure you'll still look cool.

Then I'll cut that part and preserve it, okay?

Then I'll paste my picture next to it, and it'll be a father and daughter's two shot full of love.

Come on, come on! Let's make you some court pictures by having illegal sex! I'll then collect your pictures from the court and make a wallpaper out of it!

That means I can still feel daddy in the house even though he's in prison.

After you're released, let's register our family on the spot, okay?

If daddy got a criminal record, you won't be able to look for jobs, so other girls won't even get close to you so I'll be at ease!

So hurry up and have sex with me and get arrested! Daddy, daddy, daddy, my daddy Keisuke!"

————————————————————————————————

I closed the window and crumbled.

What part of all this is “harmless”?

CHAPTER 22
TO RENDER THINGS UNDONE

Angelica: “Dad!? Hey, dad!? What did you see!? Why do you look like you’re about to die!?”

While Angelica was shaking my shoulders violently, Ayako-chan was just looking at us.

She’s a typical bookworm girl you find at the library.

I bet she never colored her semi-long black hair. Her skin is also fair all year long.

She’s bad at sports and talking with people. Her voice is also rather quiet.

Yet she got quite some volumes on her breasts pushed up by her apron, and today’s choice of everyday clothing is a vertical-striped sweater.

Who would’ve thought that the disposition of the personification of a man’s ideal *Literary Girl* Ayako-chan would be such things. Even if you ask me, this is…

Keisuke: “This is too much.”

If I remember correctly, Ayako-chan’s type of men she likes is a fatherly person, she said.

…Is that so. So I look like her dad when he was younger.

In that case the shopkeeper would also be pretty sweet to me. If i resemble her husband when he was younger, she would dote on me.

Angelica: “Dad… are you crying?”

I can’t put strength into my knees, but I did my best to move them and awkwardly stood up.

It’s like I have to forcefully activate a machine that hasn’t been oiled for a long time.

Ayako: “Are you okay, Nakamoto-san?”

Ayako-chan who got up from the cash register rushed over with a patter.

Hii!?

Don’t come closer you pervert!

I unconsciously almost let out a scream with a rather high level of girl power.

When I saw Rio’s favorability in her status appraisal, There was a degree of happiness as I thought “hey, I actually still have it with me”.

But right now, I could only feel true fear.

Angelica: “Dad, what is this girl? Is she a new species of demon?”

Keisuke: “…don’t worry, she’s harmless. She completely didn’t have any magic. Even if an evil spirit were to possess her, her MP is zero.”

Angelica: “Then, what gives?”

Keisuke: “She’s just an ordinary person with a crooked heart. No mistaking it.”

Angelica: “But if the *Perception* skill is triggered then that means there’s an evil on the level of an undead or a demon you know? Is this person really that bad that she could be put in the same category? Theoretically this *is* too much, but…”

Are you talking about a game? asked Ayako-chan, peering at my face

Ayako: “…Um, if you’re not feeling good, do you want to go to the room in the back? I have some *drugs* as well if you need.”

“I’ll hold myself back, it’s not that serious anyways.”

The way she said drugs in italics is scary.

Keisuke: “It’s just a gout. Don’t worry, sometimes I just got an episode.”

Ayako: “… my father also had a case of gout. So Nakamoto-san too, huh… you’re both similar…”

In a moment, I feel that an ominous light dwells within Ayako-chan’s eyes.

I hate this. I don’t want to be here no more.

I whispered to Angelica saying “Let’s get out of here”, but Ayako-chan stopped us.

Did she plan to strangle her rival right here?

Angelica stretched her arms as if to protect me, and the mad bookstore clerk said in a delicate voice.

Ayako: “Something about this person is a bit different today, doesn’t she?”

This person? Does she mean Angelica?

As I stiffened, Ayako-chan continued further.

Ayako: “How was that book? Could that be a good enough reference?”

She wasn’t talking to me, but rather she was talking to Angelica.

Angelica herself was making a face as if she’s saying *what are you talking about?*

Angelica: “Are you, talking to me?”

Ayako: “Yes, you came here before as well didn’t you? Thank you very much for your visit.”

Did her fathercon got worse that it conflicts with reality?

I stood stunned as I hear her talking about something that doesn’t connect with anything.

Even though she's so cute, she ended up being so weird in this age.

I want to save her, but even as a Hero this is impossible. I can't change a person's heart.

Ayako: "Last week you came with an outfit that look like an old man, but today you wear normal clothes, I see… can I ask what is your relationship with Nakamoto-san? No, I am just curious…"

I think it's starting to get dangerous so I pulled Angelica outside of the store.

It's still the height of winter, so it's cold outside.

I was drenched with sweat, so my bodily temperature is rapidly dropping.

In such a short time, the me who had saved a world had been backed up to a corner.

Angelica: "What's with that girl?"

It's a world you better off not knowing, I warned her.

Though I wish I didn't know myself.

Somehow I suddenly feel tired.

Keisuke: "Let's take a break."

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With unsteady steps, I guided Angelica to the nearby hamburger shop, and then we decided to take a breather.

We went to the toilet, rehydrated ourselves, chatted and killed some time.

Angelica: "But she's scary, isn't she? She's an ordinary person, but she had the malice of a higher-class demon, there's that *piko~n piko~n* sound at her."

Keisuke: "What do you mean, *pikon pikon* sound?"

Angelica: “You see, when I’m using the *Perception* skill, there’s… a map-like thing on the edge of my vision. If I’m at a point where there is a malicious thing, it starts blinking like *piko~n piko~n*.”

Keisuke: “Heeh, that’s a bit interesting.”

As expected, Angelica’s skill feels game-like.

It’s totally like “the map on the top-right corner of the screen that shows where the enemies are”.

Angelica: “If it’s powerful or if it gets close to something whose attribute is pure malice, it’ll go *piko~n piko~n*. But when we get close to that girl it goes *pikopikopikopiko* and it was blinking red super fast. Red is the color of evil. The redder the marker is, the more evil it is. Normally it’s the color of a demon, but sometimes it could also be the color of an atrocious criminal. I heard that a criminal in a death row is a thin red, but that girl is blood red…”

I thought to myself *So for months I have been commuting to a store with such dangerous employee?* I just start feeling the chills now.

Keisuke: “On that note, what kind of things did the *Perception* skill detect from when we were at my room? It was blinking slowly I bet?”

Angelica: “Dad’s room, is it? Hmm… it’s like, it’s spreading around me in the center. It was really scary.”

Keisuke: “Centered around you?”

Angelica: “Yes, yes.”

Angelica nodded her head.

Angelica: “It’s radiating white dots and I felt like it would surround me. White is the color of spiritual body.”

So it's like they're surrounding her, huh.

It was correct of me to cast a Sacred Circle.

It's a magic circle that protects the target's surroundings around in a radius of 300 meters.

Once I did that, I didn't need to worry.

I've dispelled it for now, but once our search is over, I'll cast it again.

Angelica: "But I think the accuracy of my skill has dropped. It couldn't detect anything other than an ordinary person."

Keisuke: "No I think it works like a charm. It truly sees through malicious presences."

Eh? What's with the sudden praise? Angelica said happily as she moved the menu screen in front of her away.

Keisuke: "Let's buy something."

I smiled, thinking I'd feel bad if I just came and buy drinks.

Angelica had been fidgeting for a while as well.

She's been interested thanks to the aroma from the cooks prepping food and from the other customers eating around us.

Angelica: "Is that okay?"

Keisuke: "It's a bit early, but let's have some lunch. I'm hungry from walking around."

Koppan~ Koppan~

Angelica started humming some weird songs again.

Seeing her getting excited looking at the menu in high spirits makes me think that she's really still a child.

Angelica: "…I can read it but it's full of words that I don't know the meaning of…

Keisuke: "Ah, as I thought. That happens, huh."

When I went to the other world, this happens a lot to me too.

I explained to Angelica about what kind of food is what as I reminisced a bit

Angelica ordered the Cheeseburger set while I ordered a Teriyaki Burger set.

Once our orders are delivered, we split our burgers in half and exchanged the half to each other.

Once we're ready, we bite into them.

Angelica: "I will look forward in enjoying both tastes."

Angelica smiled with pickles on the corner of her mouth.

Seems like there's some sauce on my chin as well, so you're welcomed.

I felt nice that I treated her to lunch. It hurts my wallet, but it didn't really hurt my conscience.

Both my wallet and my heart are feeling light.

For Angelica who's not used to carbonated drinks, I ordered another Oolong tea on top of that.

Add another to the expenses list. And even still, I'm in a good mood.

…this is fun.

If I had been in Japan the whole time, is this how it feels to spend your day off with your wife and child?

But at my age, perhaps my child would still be very young.

For her, probably I'd buy her the set that includes some toys in it.

Then she would probably get sick of it soon, but for now she'll be desperately collecting

them as I look over her gently.

…Perhaps I could have had that life.

It's a possibility way out of my reach now.

But it doesn't matter.

My life is trash anyways. I'm a ruined hero drowning in sins. I won't think of wanting to start over.

But it's different for Angelica.

She's still young and she hasn't been dyed by the colors of evil.

If it's her, she could still seize her future with her own strength.

A future where she can have a child with a man of her own generation.

And for that, I need her to have identification papers.

As we finished our early lunch break, we left the store.

—Time to threaten Gondou.

I bet the Yakuza have some way to prepare identification papers illegally.

Even if they don't, I'll order them to find a way or another.

I will use any method. I'll gradually break some law, and I'm even willing to resort to violence.

I've determined myself to be Angelica's guardian. She's my family; she's my daughter.

I will protect her. I will be a good father to her. I will devote myself for my daughter.

By doing that, I'll have undone my past mistakes.

—undone?

What was that just now?

Was that scumbag train of thought what I really think?

Am I thinking that by pampering Angelica, I would've atoned my sins for those who died in the past?

Keisuke: "I'm the worst."

My mood worsens as I sighed a monologue.

Yeah, that's right. I know at least that much.

The reason I'm harboring intimacy with Angelica is not because of lust nor love, it's regret.

It's not that different than when my dad paid a girl to wear a sailor uniform when he was in his student days.

I wished to take back my lost possibility using Angelica.

The me who could be a good father.

Grrk, I ground my teeth.

Then what is it? If I wanted to make it so that I'm doing this for her, what sort of motive do I need?

Angelica: "Dad? Somehow you're making a scary face."

It's nothing, Ange, I answered.

It's because I'm your foster father, you see. I shouldn't have done things that scares my daughter.

What I’m scared of are just villains and monsters.

CHAPTER 23
IMMORAL PAPA

Gondou: “What do you need for me I wonder. Even bringing a beauty with you, are you planning to show off?”

I visited Gondou’s office again, and it seems that the bloodstains from last time are mostly cleaned.

Perhaps they do have some people who specializes in the cleaning of such stains.

Though I don’t want to know, and I don’t need to know.

Keisuke: “You’re using a different tone than yesterday aren’t you? So you can properly use polite words now?”

Gondou didn’t respond to my inquiry.

He simply grinned while lying back on his sofa.

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After what I did, I held Angelica and cast concealment magic on us and flied to this office.

We entered the building and right now we’re standing in front of Gondou.

It shouldn’t have been alright to let Angelica enter a place like this that looks like a garbage dump.

But I need Gondou to grasp who Angelica is.

Also—if Angelica saw me intimidating Gondou, she might come to hate me.

She’ll be disappointed and give up on me, and she’ll look for another man.

If I can do that, then I’ll be a good father.

That's why I decided to bring Angelica with me rather than just showing Gondou her picture.

Keisuke: "You're just my dog, you remember that? No weapons nor arms of yours could scratch me."

Gondou: "…I look weak when you say that. Well, I've set out some youngsters to the ramen store in front of the store as you requested. Everyday they'll eat over there and if they hear plates crashing they'll jeer at the shop owner. What's the meaning behind this anyways? Is your lover working in that store or something? You're asking me to punish the store owner that's been bullying your lover or something?"

Keisuke: "You don't need to know."

Feeling the threatening atmosphere, Angelica firmly held onto my arm.

I've told her to keep quiet and do what I tell her to do.

Bear witness, then scorn me, and be disappointed.

Keisuke: "Gondou, I need an identification papers for this girl. She illegally immigrated."

Gondou: "You're not that hard of a person are you? Your eyes look like a murderer's though."

Gondou said that while stroking his little finger. It was a finger that he lost until yesterday.

When I healed his right arm back yesterday, I unintentionally regenerated back some other parts.

The moment the finger that's been cut years ago grew back, he silently stared in shock.

Keisuke: "Make her a Western passport that fits her appearance. But don't kill anyone."

Gondou: "You're unreasonable, you know that? Someone who looks like her would be a very beautiful lady you know? You think there's gonna be anyone like that who are so despearte for money they'll sell their passport? They'll probably sell their body for cash first. I'm telling you there won't be anyone who's gonna sell their social status

like that. It's not gonna be possible. No way. There are things even the Yakuza can't do."

I guess it's impossible if I don't compromise a bit more.

Keisuke: "Whatever white lady's ID is fine. Do something about it. Forge it of you must."

Gondou: "It's not like you can't pose as a Russian brat. That state's countryside is pretty poor. They'll probably sell stuff they weren't supposed to sell. Like their own documents for example."

Keisuke: "That's fine. This kid looks a bit Slavic too."

Gondou: "But mister Nakamoto, can you give us a bit more for this? This job is a major pain in the ass you know? On top of that we're working for the guy who whooped our asses yesterday. Working for free is a bit… ya' know."

He said that while showing me his creepy smile. It has a different nature than the creepy smile from yesterday.

This smile of his will convince me that he's actually a leader of a crime syndicate.

Keisuke: "What, what do you want split in half?"

Gondou: "Oi oi, that's dangerous. Rather than muscles, you get work quickly aren't you?"

He lifts both his arms and his lips curved.

Gondou: "How about it, Mister? Do you feel like working as our hitman specialist? I want you, ya' see. This is the condition for your request."

Keisuke: "You're scouting me, huh?"

Gondou: "With you around our family is invincible. If we can become partners we'll accept your requests with open arms. We were utterly smashed by you but we can strike a deal."

There's the part time work at the ramen store and now the Yakuza's martial constituents.

My income might rise.

But,

Keisuke: "I can't do that."

Gondou: "Hoo,"

Someone's trying to use my fighting power. I've thoroughly experienced that during my days as a hero.

It's not worth it. Besides, I won't stand being a co-worker of these fools.

Keisuke: "Shut up and do what I say, and do it unconditionally. I won't be one of your troops."

Gondou: "Negotiation fails, huh?"

Gondou held his hands together behind his head and bent his chest.

Gondou: "If you wanna kill me then kill me. Then you won't get your hands on that ID, and it's over. A short temper is a disadvantage, mister."

Keisuke: "I'll revive you before you die and I'll kill you again. Do you think you can handle that cycle?"

Gondou: "I won't know until I get there."

Even after his disgusting giggles are gone, he still had that strange edge.

With him in the current situation, he will really stick it out until the last bit if I am to torture him.

Keisuke: "…can't help it then. I didn't really want to use this method though."

Gondou: "Oh? Are you doing it? Alrighty then, do it as much as you want. Cut my fingers

or carve my back, I won't even let out a scream you know. I'd better off dying rather than working for you. Don't underestimate Gondou's pride."

I pulled out my smartphone from my pocket and shut my eyes.

Sorry. I'll have to be a demon.

At this moment I stopped being a hero, or rather I even stopped being a human.

For Angelica, I'll tread the path of a fiend.

Keisuke: "Look at this, Gondou."

Gondou: "Huh?"

Keisuke: "You can take your time and look at it."

I opened the SNS application and showed the screen to Gondou.

Gondou: "T-This is…!"

Sorry, Rio. I'm using your goodwill in the worst way possible.

I'm using the risque selfies you kept sending me this morning as a negotiation material…

Gondou: "Don't fuck with me! As I thought you've laid your hands on Rio haven't you!? She covered her eyes with her bra and thighs peeking out… this is full of selfies that just spells arrest isn't this!?"

Keisuke: "She's the one sending me these, so I can't do anything about it."

Gondou: "…No matter how much I like high school girls… the straight black-haired JK is already embracing another man and showing herself acting like a female molester. I can only feel some NTR shit is going on. Do you think you can move the Yakuza with this… perverted picture of a restless looking 16-year-old Saitou Rio with 165 cm height and about B~C cup in a public toilet looking like she's saying she loves oji-san!? Thank you very much!"

Gondou returned the phone to me and said “Leave the matter of the passport to me!” and energetically nodded.

Gondou: “I have a heart as well. Doing this for a girl that illegally immigrated won’t be that bad anyways. By the way, how old is the foreigner?”

Keisuke: “Sixteen.”

Gondou: “Isn’t she a JK then? So you’re even keeping two JKs with you. One is a foreign girl even, you’re unbelievable. You’re a hardened criminal, I tell you.”

At that time,

—Don’t badmouth dad.

Angelica silently said in a murmur.

I’ve told her to keep it quiet, but it seemed like she unintentionally leaked that out.

The girl herself also showed a face that says “oh crap”.

Gondou: “She’s really attached to you isn’t she? Ojou-chan, do you like mister Nakamoto?”

Gondou asked Angelica with an unbearable joy in his voice.

Angelica looked at me with a face that asked “can I answer?”

I lightly nodded. If it’s just this much, I don’t really mind.

Angelica: “…I do.”

Gondou: “Is that so, is that so. That’s great for you then. By the way, jou-chan, who are you to the mister? A lover? Are you working in the ramen store?”

Angelica: “I’m dad’s wife.”

To Angelica’s reply, Gondou slipped off from his sofa with a rattle.

Gondou: “On top of being a foreign JK daughter-in-law you even made her your de facto wife? Unbelievable. You’re truly the god of sex crimes.”

On the face of Gondou’s respectful gaze, I asked him in return.

Keisuke: “You’re really having a different atmosphere than yesterday, huh. Is this your real self?”

Gondou: “…you’re saying that too? Did I really get stranger?”

I don’t really remember, Gondou said, tilting his head.

Gondou: “I can’t remember the past few days well. I don’t know what it is. Someone spiked me maybe? I mean, Lots a’ people hated my guts and all.”

Keisuke: “Rio said at some point you changed as a person after seeing a ghost. Is that true?”

Gondou: “…you even heard those sorts of things. It’s true though. After seeing a white floaty thing in Rio’s house my head turned dizzy. After that I don’t really remember. I lost my memory for ’bout 5 days. When I came to it you came in this room, and that was yesterday.”

You remembered me attacking you, right? I asked.

Gondou: “Duh? I felt like I was half dreaming though.”

Keisuke: “…got it. Then you felt like your self came back, right?”

Gondou: “Don’t realize most of ’em though. Is that why? I don’t really feel that I argued with you. I know it happened. I feel like something’s struggling with my body while I was looking at it from far away. Well, not from far away actually. It’s from the inside. Is this the split personality thing? A split personality Yakuza, huh. This is a bummer. How am I supposed to be popular with the high school girls then.”

Not my problem. That's the impression I'm getting.

That's why he's talking about it so openly.

He fought me with his own intention, and if he was beaten, it wouldn't have been like this. He would have more hostility towards me.

He might have been another victim of the evil spirit.

He was immoral, but he was still controlled.

Keisuke: "Lastly can I ask one more thing?"

Gondou: "What is it? You got more questions?"

Keisuke: "If you really like high schoolers then why'd you go out with Rio's mother? Can you even still normally go out with a woman your age?"

Aah, that's true, Gondou said as if it's not a problem.

Gondou: "That's because it's the first step to take before I can feast on Rio ya' see. Get the position of a kind, reliable parent and glomp her after that. But looks like when my head was messed up I approached her violently so that's a failure."

Keisuke: "…I was wrong to have sympathized with you."

Gondou: "Cool it. I got no interest in Rio no more. She's gotten that dirty right? I've no interest other than a virgin high school girls. Maybe I should look for the next cutie."

This man is better off dead.

Angelica and I exited the office feeling exhausted.

CHAPTER 24
THE NEIGHBOR

Angelica and I walked quite the distance.

We didn't really converse, and we didn't even look at each other.

Unlike lovers nor parent and child. Just like strangers.

Keisuke: "Disappointed?"

Angelica lost her cheerfulness since earlier.

Perhaps after I threatened Gondou, the ideal image of a father or even the image of the hero in her heart has been broken.

But that's fine.

I wanted her to misjudge me.

Keisuke: "Heroes do these sort of things too. If the demons we face are capable of speech, threatening them once won't cut it. Someone like me isn't a hero at all, Ange. You've probably heard the saying that the enemy of justice is another side of justice, right? Same thing; the enemy of evil is another side of evil. I just happen to be a bad guy that's on the side of humanity. I'm just that kind of person."

Angelica: "What did you do with Rio-san?"

Keisuke: "So you should quickly find another proper man and fall for him."

Angelica: "Did you lay your hands on Rio-san? That crude person from earlier said something about that, didn't he?"

Look, I was going on some self-loathing talk trying to look cool you know.

And instead you caught on *that*?

Angelica: “Hey. Show me that shining board you showed to Gondo-san. It’s called a smartphone or something, isn’t it?”

Keisuke: “Eh?”

Angelica: “I mean I’m curious as well. The moment he saw it, Gondo-san was really excited about it. You showed him something that has to do with Rio-san, didn’t you?”

I feel my mouth drying up.

My tongue is getting sticky and my throat is getting sore.

Angelica: “You can see someone far away with that *smartphone* thing just like what the TV told me, right? I got curious about what sort of figure Rio-san has.”

She shouldn’t have known how a smartphone works, but this condition…

I became afraid that if she gets more knowledge about modern society, I will eventually be unable to keep any secrets to her.

Angelica: “By the way dad, since yesterday you’ve been bringing your smartphone with you to the toilet so that I won’t be able to see it, right? Are you perhaps doing an exchange that you can’t show anyone?… I hope it’s just my imagination… hey. What’s in that smartphone?”

She’s sharp. Too sharp.

But thinking about it the other way around, this might be a good chance to make her hate me.

Show her Rio’s selfies, say that I already have her and get her to give up.

It’s such an underhanded method, but it should show great results.

I didn’t want to do this because I would hurt her maiden heart.

If she ended up getting so hurt she chose to not want to involve herself in a romantic

affairs, that'll be bad.

Above all, according to the system message I saw last night, I think this method would backfire.

See? Even now.

Angelica: "Be prepared when we get home. I'll make sure dad understands whose papa you're supposed to be."

Angelica bit her lower lip, slightly upset.

And even if you say *I'll make sure you understand*, what are you going to do exactly?

A system message appeared on my field of vision.

<Party Member, **Sacred Maiden Angelica**'s *Desire to Monopolize* has risen to **900**>

<**Angelica**'s *sexual arousal* has reached **70%**>

<Requirements for *consensual sexual actions* met. Do you proceed?>

<If proceeded, there is a constant probability of conceiving>

<The child conceived would gain combined status pattern of both parents; some skills would be inherited, and equipment and item sharing is possible>

<Assignment of child's class is also possible>

Regrettably, it seems like Angelica is the type of person that gets more fired up the more she's consumed by jealousy.

If I show her another female figure, it would definitely backfire.

While I fell into confusion, I gave out some excuses to Angelica.

Actually the smartphone had a brainwashing function and I was using it to persuade Gondou.

If a human with no resistance peeks into the smartphone, their eyeballs would explode, so I can't show you.

You're a lot cuter than Rio so I didn't feel worried (???) and lash out.

I started to make less and less sense with every words coming out of my mouth, and to that, Angelica let out a laugh.

Angelica: "It's fine already. I don't know what that passport thing you were talking about, but it had the nuance that it's something that I would need. To prepare that you have no other choice but to use that Rio-san, right?"

She grinned.

Is she actually not mad from the beginning? I thought.

Keisuke: "You're playing with me aren't you?"

Angelica: "E~h? I was really upset up till somewhere in the middle, so I wasn't playing around."

Keisuke: "You were, weren't you?"

Angelica moved closer swiftly as if sliding over and linked her arms with mine.

Angelica: "Well then how about you get your revenge on me?"

Keisuke: "How?"

Angelica: "Because I toyed with you, you can toy with me… tonight."

Take care of your body a bit more, will you? I poked at her.

Don't you know it's not good being an old man's offering?

Your body is yours.

You don't really act like a Sacred Maiden, do you.

…Angelica's body belongs to Angelica…

Just for a moment, that phrase flashed in my head and turned into fireworks in my brain.

The invisible fuse ignites and caused a brain blast.

The torrent of heat that seeks answers circulated in my synapses.

Keisuke: "…Ah?"

So… that's it?

I stopped my feet and think.

I grasped that moment of insight and turned it into a clear speculation.

—A female ghost dressed in white.

An out-of-season ghost story witnessed around the apartment a week before Angelica came to this world.

That and Gondou who was suddenly out of it for the in the second day after he goes in and out of Rio's house at roughly the same time.

The neighbor that showed no responses no matter how loud we were. Ayako-chan who insisted that Angelica had visited before.

Angelica who had a nice smell from the beginning.

The countless threads of events are tangled in my brain, and it weaved a single answer.

Keisuke: "Ange, I'm sorry but I will be doing something awful to you."

Angelica: "…that's alright."

Angelica let out a feverish sigh and looked at me with eyes full of expectations.

She s misunderstanding my intentions completely, but I would need every second I can have.

I carried Angelica and cast a concealment magic and fly towards my house.

I stepped on the roof of the houses on the way and jumped over overhead railways to get the shortest distance to the house.

My apartment with the familiar black roof and the sooty white walls is getting closer. The room where me and Angelica lives.

The place we would return to is just over there.

Keisuke: “No matter what happens, please bear with it.”

Angelica: “… I am prepared.”

Keisuke: “Don’t cry, okay? If your mind breaks first, then you lose.”

Angelica: “B-Bring it on!”

I put down Angelica, whose face is red as a boiled octopus.

If I don’t choose how I put her down, I’ll have arrived in no time.

We’re home.

We returned to our apartment.

The sun had begun to go down.

The evening glow stretches our shadows all the way to the building.

My shadow is on my room. Angelica’s shadow is on the next room.

It’s almost metaphorical.

Keisuke: “Come.”

I grabbed Ange's wrist and quickly climbed the stairs.

Just like this morning, we saw a door with countless newspapers jammed into it.

The unspoken neighbor's mail slot.

We're finally here. The answer has been this close to us.

I stopped walking and Ange said *"daddy, you're too forceful"* while she was blushing up to her ears.

Keisuke: "Alright, I'm going in."

Angelica: "Please…!"

After that, I…

entered the room and headed straight to the veranda.

Angelica: "Dad? Where are you going? Eh, it's going to be bad if you open the windows you know!? Are you planning to show us off!?"

It's a usual thing for cramped apartments where the veranda of the next room is very close. I can easily vault over there.

Angelica followed suit in total confusion saying "That's not our room!", bewildered.

Keisuke: "No, come here. There's someone we have to see."

They might have already been dead though.

I put my hand on the window and it slides open easily.

As I thought, it wasn't locked.

Creeping in, my feet pushed aside the pile of garbage bags aside.

Apartments are rather strange.

Even if someone lives in a space with an exactly similar layout with yours, the inhabitant's lifestyle can render its impression completely different.

This is where my neighbor lives.

This place is filled with rotten odors and a strange hint of death.

The futon sprawled on the floor is stained yellow and full of food spills.

This is the embodiment of poverty and lack of hygiene.

On top of a small table was a white vinyl bag. Its contents are pills. Perhaps the owner had a chronic disease?

The neighbor is dead, covered with a lot of articles of what used to be his belongings.

He is a white-haired male, and he had withered away like a tree.

The coldness of mid-winter weather had managed to delay the decomposition of his body.

But the pungent stench had been filling the room. It's about time it reached its limits and leak out.

I came closer to the corpse and quickly scanned it.

There are no bleeding nor any sign of external trauma.

It's either a sudden cardiac death or death from illness. A lonely death.

No matter what words I use to describe the situation, every single one of them are forlorn.

Angelica: "This is the neighbor's room, isn't it? Is it okay to just barge in?"

Angelica was late because she was gingerly taking her steps and came over.

As I expected, for girls of age like Angelica, this sort of mess would be unbearable.

Carefully picking the place she could put her foot on, she very slowly proceeded.

Angelica: “Is this a corpse!? EEH—!?”

Angelica’s facial expression stiffen as she stands next to me.

Angelica: “Is this a normal occurrence in this world?”

Keisuke: “It’s not, but there are a lot of cases like these recently.”

Angelica asked while her eyes looked scared.

Angelica: “Are you going to bury him? Or are you going to call someone?”

That’s for later.

Besides, the police or something will take care of it later.

Though I’m not sure how far do Gondou’s boys can work.

As I finished checking the corpse, I turned my eyes to the corner of the room.

Considering the age of the resident, it’s unnatural for that thing to be stacked in front of the TV stand.

Keisuke: “There it is, as I thought.”

CHAPTER 25
CHASING AFTER YOU

Countless books.

The reference books are focused on the subjects dealing with modern history.

From tourist maps to textbooks, everything was mixed within.

That part of the room looks like a separated mismatch belonging to an exchange student.

It's surely out of place for the personal belongings of a lonesome man of old age.

Keisuke: "It was purchased in the Ootsuki secondhand bookstore."

That store frequently stocks these sorts of books under my request.

That's right.

These are books perfect for someone that just recently returned to Japan and had to collect information.

On top of that, the price was affordable.

Keisuke: "He even learned about how to use the currency… ah, probably he was still breathing when she was transferred, so she could learn from these."

Angelica: "Umm… dad?"

I still can't swallow the situation at all though, Angelica asked.

Still looking perplexed, she inched away from the dead body.

It's quite harsh to tell this to your scared daughter, but I have no choice but to tell her.

Keisuke: "…I told you before, but there are no such things as spiritual bodies on Earth. When I was summoned to the other world, I understood that. Yet right now, this town is flooded with ghosts. Don't you think it's weird? Then where would they come from? There's no other options but the other world."

Angelica: "They came from the same world as I did?"

Keisuke: "They came at the same time as you did too."

When the people of that world thought of sending me something, a massive amount of energy was required.

The high priests gather a lot of people and assembled a complex spell. It requires money and manpower, truly a troublesome work.

Keisuke: "If you're sending several things, it's better to do it all at once."

I told Angelica as I stared at her green pupils waver.

Keisuke: "The priests sent you here with a lot of spirits possessing you. With that, both you and the evil spirits can be sent here in one shot."

Angelica: "…that's got to be a lie, right?"

I could see the color of blood getting drained from Angelica's face.

Her doll-like graceful face turned pale, further making it look artificial.

Keisuke: "That means," I said in one beat, "Ange, it's you. The sightings of white woman around our apartment for the last week has been you."

Angelica: "I don't understand…"

Keisuke: "You were sent to Japan a week earlier than you remembered. You were probably manipulated by the spirits the first few days you get here."

However, she was transferred next to my room.

Just the slightest calculation error, especially in the cramped housing situation in Japan, the transfer would get to the wrong person's house.

The room was lived by a lonely old man waiting for his death.

When Angelica suddenly appeared in that room, and perhaps it looked like an angel had descended upon him.

Just by being a talking companion, the spirit could extract as much information about Japan as possible.

Yet in the middle of all that, the source of information passed away.

Or perhaps when Angelica came about, the man was already dead.

Either way, the spirit had to find another means to obtain information about Japan other than the old man.

As a matter of necessity, it turned to start learning on its own.

At first, it went out dressed as the Holy Maiden and became the source of the ghost stories.

Eventually it gained the knowledge of having to borrow the outfit and money of the old man and reached a decision to buy books from the bookstore.

The evil spirit used Angelica's body to quickly learn about modern Japan.

Keisuke: "You probably slept here for several days, took showers too probably. It's a room full of putrid smell, so it's natural if you wanted to get rid of that smell. That's why your hair smelled nice since the beginning. It's a smell that's only possible by the technologically advanced shampoo from Japan. Even if you use fragrances from your world and the soap there, it wouldn't have smelled like that."

But after that, Angelica who managed to regain control of her body again didn't notice the difference in the smell of her hair.

It's like someone washed your hair while you're asleep, and when she opened her eyes, she was in another world and I have arrived in front of her.

Suppose that she noticed, the situation of her hair would be down in her priority list.

What if I was summoned to another world and noticed that my hair smelled like a different shampoo?

There would be a lot of things more important for me to think about other than that.

So I'd definitely ignore it.

Angelica: "…Everything is a speculation, right?"

Keisuke: "Pretty much. But the situation is exactly the same like when I did this."

Angelica: "When dad did?"

Keisuke: "You see, this strategy is what me and the Head Priest thought of over there. We capture prisoners of war and possess them with tamed spirits. They would seize control of the body, and we'll send them back to enemy territory. After that they can do whatever they want. They can sabotage or cause internal discord. We tend to use this method against enemies that were difficult to defeat or storm a castle that seem difficult to take down. Especially when my status were still low. It's a method for the weak to use the strong. So what would the people of the other world do to take down the strongest hero?"

Right after the possession is finished, the possessed is left with no memories.

It's a common occurrence that after several days passed, the personality of the person possessed will resurface.

That was what happened with Gondou.

There's no mistake that that Yakuza was possessed by one of the spirits that came out of Angelica.

Angelica: "But, that's not possible."

With shivering voice, Angelica said that.

Tears are surfacing on her eyes.

Keisuke: “Ange, do you remember the first time we met? When I opened the door, you came in from the veranda, right? You came from the veranda next door, right? Wasn’t that why you were in that place? By the time you realized it, you were on the veranda of my room. Isn’t that right?”

Angelica could not answer.

Keisuke: “Ange?”

Angelica: “…”

Keisuke: “Ange, is it true?”

Angelica: “The Head Priest said he wanted to thank the hero you know? Then why is this…?”

I have no idea. I don’t know his objective nor am I interested in it.

He was probably upset anyways.

Angelica: “I’m sure this is a mistake… I mean, dad was the first man I’ve seen, and this is the first time I’ve seen this old man…”

Keisuke: “It’s inevitable that you forgot. It’s that sort of thing after all.”

It’s that sort of thing, I sighed.

It was white and misty.

In the room with no heating, the temperature isn’t different from the outside.

Keisuke: “Do you have anything that can explain the situation better? No, right? In my part, there are some more evidence that led me to doubt you. When you used *Perception*, there was a spiritual presence radiating centered on you, right? Isn’t that because the spirits are exiting your body?”

Everything was caused by you, I told her.

Angelica: “It’s… my fault…”

Angelica froze up.

Keisuke: “By the way, that speculation I brought up was the best case scenario for you.”

Angelica: “…what do you mean?”

Keisuke: “Here’s a worse case scenario; you knew everything, don’t you? Are you colluding with the Head Priest? Are you planning to get close to me so that you can dispose of me? You didn’t volunteer to be possessed by the evil spirits and bring them to me, did you?”

Angelica: “I, I didn’t…!”

Angelica brought both hands to her mouth and lightly trembled.

My paternal instinct is tingling, it was a gesture that made me want to hug her.

Is that, too, an act?

Keisuke: “You’re suspicious, is what I’m trying to tell you.”

Twitch! Angelica’s shoulders jumped.

Keisuke: “For a miserable old man like me, if a beautiful young girl suddenly follows him around, I could only think that there’s something more to it. You were so aggressive about it too, weren’t you? Was that also an act drilled in your head by the Head Priest?”

Angelica: “I love dad, so that’s why…”

That again.

When she’s troubled, she’d say that probably trying to trick me.

Keisuke: “Do you think I could believe someone who says they love me in no time after we meet? That’s definitely impossible.”

Angelica: “…I really… love dad.”

Keisuke: “You’d probably say that to any men, wouldn’t you? You’re just curious of the opposite gender anyways, aren’t you?”

Angelica: “—”

That sentence was the cue.

Angelica ran towards the entrance without even looking back.

Are you thinking that you’re going to resort to violence? Or did you think this is just too mentally unbearable?

Whichever is fine. Whichever.

Whatever the reason is, the fact that “I made Angelica cry” won’t change.

Keisuke: “… shit.”

Cold wind blew in from the wide open front door.

Clang, clang, clang, clang, I could hear the sound of footsteps running down the staircase with fury.

The girl who said she loved me is running away somewhere.

What am I even doing?

It’s true that Angelica holds the important hint regarding the fuss about the ghosts.

Which means there are no meaning in driving her out like this.

Granted that she was being used; granted that she deliberately did all that, there are still more things that I should be asking her.

It shouldn't be like this.

I really wanted to press for an answer in a gentler flow.

Then why did I get so emotional in the middle of all that?

Now that I did that it looked like I was fighting with my younger girlfriend.

Even though I said I would be her guardian, I'm not acting mature at all.

I thought of cooling my head for a while.

I sluggishly exited to the veranda and vaulted back to my room like before.

I closed the window and headed for the kitchen.

I poured water into a cup and drank it up.

The tap-water in winter felt so cold that it stings my throat.

I should be off searching for Angelica soon, but I completely couldn't feel any motivation welling up.

I walked to the living room and lowered my back onto the bed.

In a daze, I looked at the screen of my smartphone. The time is 5:11 P.M.

Winter days are short. It should get darker soon.

Oh right. I found a dead body. I should notify the officials. I should also tell the landlord.

I rose to my feet and noticed a white cloth folded in front of the bookshelf.

It was Angelica's Sacred Maiden outfit, which was perhaps the cause of the ghost uproar.

The half-transparent veil was woven by mysterious materials; even in the other world,

it was considered a very high class item.

And that item was carelessly left lying on the floor.

A brown paper bag was sitting on top of that sacred outfit.

It was a bag that contained the clothes and snacks I bought for Angelica yesterday.

The bag was neatly folded; she was treasuring it.

Even though I told her that the bag and the wrappings are trash she could throw away, she's still keeping it.

It was the first present dad gave me, she said, adamantly refusing to throw it away.

She treasured the paper bag and put it on top of her highest-class otherworldly item.

Keisuke: "I'm an idiot, aren't I?"

The moment I muttered that, a window popped up.

<Party Member, **Sacred Maiden Angelica**'s *favorability point* is at **-500**>

I truly am an idiot.

It's true that I was too busy being a hero that I didn't get to attend school.

The fact that Angelica had been holding affection for me had been shown front of my eyes the entire time.

Her favorability points dropped, but previously it said that she harbored some desire to monopolize.

She wasn't acting to get close to me. She truly sought for me.

My blood is rising because I managed to forget such important thing.

Or rather, it was blowing off of my head.

Just thinking that a lot of spiritual body residing inside Angelica, I feel like going crazy.

I forgot myself.

In just a moment where the doubt that “Angelica might be an accomplice” appeared in my head, I got irritated.

This is not the behavior an adult man should do.

I’m just a brat.

Why was I that upset?

For me, it was a very important matter, so I couldn’t react any less.

It was because I wanted to believe her, I flipped out because of a single suspicion.

Am I losing my composure if it involves her?

Do I like Angelica?

I myself don’t know.

The one thing I’m sure about is that I need to look for her and apologize.

I’m a bad parent.

I dashed out of my room.

In my haste, I stopped my legs as I descended the stairs.

I probably won’t find her by blindly running around, so I jumped high and got on top of the apartment’s roof.

I thought searching for her from a high ground would be easier.

But I couldn’t find her.

How far did she go?

I don't want to think… that she wouldn't return.

I jumped off and ran at full speed.

Every few hundred meters I jumped into the roof of a building and looked around.

Concealment magic can hide sounds, but it can't hide vibrations.

Perhaps some families would be surprised from the mysterious shaking of their house.

I apologize, but I have no time to be considerate.

I exited the residential area and run along the public roads. I climbed to the roof of a convenience store and scanned the area.

I can't find her.

I'm getting farther away from the apartment.

I was thinking to ask some passerby if they saw a white girl around, but I just remembered that she was also still under the effect of concealment magic.

She's simply invisible for normal people who possess no mana. I can't just collect information from eyewitnesses.

As I descended to the ground, I decided to return to the area around the apartment.

As I breathe heavily, I continue my dash.

I hoped that she had returned to the room, so I climbed the staircase and opened the door to the room. But she wasn't there.

Keisuke: "Ange…"

I'm really bad at searching. I even lost my life at some point.

Can I even find Angelica as I am now?

I thought that as I walked toward the neighborhood public park.

Spring is still far away, so the the sakura trees encircling the grounds were only trunk and branches.

Like a bird without its feather, it gives off a poor impression.

Those… are just pieces of wood.

The horizontal bar, the jungle gym, the parallel bar, and the swing.

Even the playing facilities are nothing more than just a pile of rods.

A collection of iron bones.

In this park full of skeletons, there was one playground equipment with some flesh on it.

A light blue slide in the shape of an elephant.

It looked like a watering can where you can get into the stomach part.

Children tend to use that part to hide… If someone gets in there, I wouldn't have seen anything but the elephant's back from higher altitude.

It's a blind spot.

Somehow, I took a peek inside.

Keisuke: "So you're here."

This park is within viewing distance from my room.

I thought she wouldn't ran away to a place like this.

But probably she didn't have any intention to run away from the beginning.

She wants to be followed and she wants to be found; that's why she hid nearby.

Perhaps that was it.

Keisuke: “I’m sorry, it was my fault. Let’s go home.”

Angelica was sitting under the slide, hugging her knees. There were marks of her tears on her cheeks.

I crouched down and extended my hand.

Keisuke: “It wasn’t a proper thing for a man of my age to tell a girl something like that. I regret that. I was upset.”

I, too, thought that it was a stupid excuse. I talked like a violent husband.

<Party Member, **Sacred Maiden Angelica**‘s *favorability point* is at **-300**>

Keisuke: “You really want to be held by me back then. I didn’t have confidence in myself. Why would someone like you want to be with me, I thought, and I doubt everything from that world from the beginning. I wasn’t treated well back there… but I’m just making excuses at this point. What should I be saying…”

<Party Member, **Sacred Maiden Angelica**‘s *favorability point* is at **-200**>

Keisuke: “When I thought that you were set up to be possessed by some spirits, everything in my head turned completely red. I don’t really know, but that’s what happened. I wonder why is that. My head was boiling and I can’t collect my thoughts. I then started talking things that wasn’t like me. I think it was because it’s you we’re talking about. I wouldn’t be so upset if we’re talking about other girls…”

<Party Member, **Sacred Maiden Angelica**‘s *favorability point* is at **-100**>

Keisuke: “…come on back, to my place. It’s fun having you with me. I also rely on you to cast *Perception*… please come back. I won’t say anything mean anymore. I’ll treasure

you. I want to look for a nice job with good pay, so I can give you good clothes. I'll also give you some good food."

<Party Member, **Sacred Maiden Angelica**'s *favorability point* is at **1**>

Angelica slowly crawled outside.

She stood up while scrubbing her eyes before suddenly *glint!* glared at me.

Keisuke: "Ange, sorry."

Angelica: "… Do you know why I hide somewhere close? It's because thought you would be chasing after me. I've at least calculated that much. I'm not an idiot."

Paf, paf, she pats the dirt off her behind while she said those thorny words.

Angelica: "I purposefully chose a place that's easy for you to find but it took you *this* long to find me?… Isn't it weird?"

Keisuke: "Sorry."

Angelica: "Can't you say anything else other than *sorry*?"

I've got nothing to say back. I was just there begging for her forgiveness.

Angelica: "*That one* hurts, you know."

She joined the fingers from her two hands and turned to look at the side of the slide.

Angelica: "The one where you said that I'd probably say that to any men. Isn't that too cruel?"

Keisuke: "Sorry."

Angelica: "Because some part of it was true. That's why it hurts the most."

Keisuke: "…?"

Angelica spread her arms and twirled around.

And then, just her face turned to my direction and she said,

Angelica: "Honestly, I'd volunteer for anything as long as I can get out of the sanctuary. I've had enough living in a place with only girls around and all I can do is pray. If I can have the chance to do anything else, be it being the offering for the hero or being a scout for an adventurer party; I'd do a~nything."

Her green eyes were filled with paleness.

Angelica: "The first time I met you, dad, I thought that you were somehow unimpressive. I was told you were the Hero, so I thought that you'd have a cooler image, but all I see was a haggard middle-aged man, and I thought, *well, this is fine,* or something like that. If I can live with a man, I felt that anyone is fine. I mean I always wanted a boyfriend."

And then, Angelica continued.

Angelica: "I also thought I'd go out with you, and then we quickly break up and look for a better man… I mean, there's no way an old man like dad would be unconditionally loved by a young girl, right? I thought of that."

I heard the sound of the ground being kicked.

Angelica's body turned around and turned my way again.

We ended up facing each other.

Angelica: "…but… once I tried living together with just the two of us, dad was so kind to me… and when you had nightmares at night calling for Elza-san's name, you look so sad… and when you get along with another girl, I felt that I don't want you to be taken away from me… and then you managed to find me… like now…"

Tears are spilling from both of Angelica's eyes.

They followed her soft cheeks and flowed down to her lower jaw.

Angelica: "Right now, I truly, earnestly love you, dad…"

Keisuke: "I understand. You've delivered that feelings."

Angelica: "I don't want anyone but you…!"

Perhaps holding her was the correct decision.

I'm dull and rusty, but I understood that much.

While stroking Angelica's hair, I told her,

Keisuke: "I also don't want anyone but you, you know? It's going to be more difficult for me if they sent me a girl who look uncannily similar to Elza. I'd prefer if she's the complete opposite like you. When I'm with you, I can forget about all the bad things."

Angelica buried her face in my chest and nuzzled her nose.

Keisuke: "I'm okay with you, Ange. It's okay because it's you."

<Party Member, **Sacred Maiden Angelica**'s *favorability point* is at **9999**>

I pat Angelica in the back while I read the system message.

For some reason we've been spouting sugar-sweet words since a while ago.

Ah whatever. I'll just think I became a melodrama character just for now.

…I still feel embarrassed anyways.

We did that for a while with me being embarrassed, and Angelica finally raised her face.

Angelica: “I’ve received your commitment, okay?”

she said, smiling.

I got a feeling like I’m stuck in something deep.

CHAPTER 26
SAFE ZONE

I contacted the landlord with my smartphone and told them about the death of my neighbor.

She asked me where I was, so I told her I was on the park.

Thus as the first discoverer of the body, the landlord asked me to return to my room and wait.

Maybe they wanted to ask me a lot of details about the dead body?

Keisuke: “Such a pain.”

After the call was finished, I sat down on a bench.

Angelica sat down next to me and stared into my eyes.

Angelica: “Did I really live with that old man though…?”

Keisuke: “It’s just for several days, so it was just a speculation at best.”

Angelica: “Even if I was controlled back then, he was a roommate to a certain extent, so I wonder if I should attend his funeral as well.”

Are they even going to hold a funeral for him though?

It’s a solitude death after all, so perhaps the families left behind will be content with cremation instead.

Those families might also just be distant relatives.

Keisuke: “After everything has been taken care of, shall we leave a carnation in front of his door? That should be the appropriate distance we can take.”

The night in this park turned silent; there were no other people besides us.

As we finished our conversation, there were no voices left.

Girls do not like silence, so I think I should strike up a conversation? As I thought about that, Angelica opened her mouth first.

Angelica: “When the ghosts were controlling me, I hope I didn’t do anything weird. Hey, what would dad do? If the ghosts had done something terrible to this body, what would you do?”

Keisuke: “What terrible things for example?”

Angelica: “Sexual things, unhygienic things… something like that.”

Angelica looked at me investigatively.

Keisuke: “It’s not Ange’s fault, so don’t worry about it. You’re my precious daughter after all.”

I understand her anxiety.

Even for a man like me, if something controls my body, I’d feel pretty disgusted.

For a sixteen-year-old girl, she’d definitely feel chills running down her spine.

When I checked her status some times ago, the notes said that she had no experience with guys, so I think she’s fine.

Angelica: “Fufu, I had thought that dad would say something like that. I’m your precious daughter, right… eh? Daughter? Daughter!? Even after we get to this point, you’re still saying stuff like that!? When you found me you keep blabbering countless super sweet words, no matter what you think of it, those are the words a boyfriend would say to his girlfriend, you know! Aren’t you supposed to say *you’re my precious girlfriend* or something!?”

Keisuke: “Aren’t those normally said when fathers and daughters get into a fight? It’s normal for a parent and child that gets along well.”

At that time I also wondered.

I had a strange thought of asking myself was if I just trying to make an excuse for myself, but I want to think that it was unavoidable.

Angelica: "…what an unbelievable bonehead you are…"

I put my hand on Angelica who started sulking.

Keisuke: "That's right, I'm a bonehead. Until you've become a grownup, I'll dote on you as much as you want. Only as a father. I'll be doing that whether you want it or not. Well then, let's start exterminating some insects. It's a part of my effort on doting on you after all."

Angelica: "Exterminating insects?"

Keisuke: "You don't want anymore ghosts possessing your body, right? Some of them are still hiding out there. I'll put up a barrier magic."

Angelica: "Ah, that would be good."

With this, there would be no way for them to possess Angelica again, and with that, we prepared to move.

Sacred Circle; a spell to provide the target absolute protection in the radius of 300 meters.

It's a barrier to repel ghosts around Ange.

Thinking about it now, if I didn't use this on Ange at first, we could've defeated all of the evil spirits at once.

But back then I didn't think they came from the other world.

Because I came to the conclusion that ghosts exist in modern Japan, I decided that there were no meaning in defeating them here.

I thought they came from some cemetery or from someone who passed away, and I thought if I couldn't sever the bond between them and its origins, there wouldn't be an end to it.

On the other hand, if the source is from the other world using the possession strategy, the "source" would be the ghosts' commander.

The strongest ghastly monster who is loyal to its employer and takes command of the countless ghosts.

It should be using telepathy to convey its orders to the other ghosts.

They are usually trained by Wraiths or Spectres and are obtrusive in a different way than lower-grade ghosts.

The sooner we can find it the better.

Keisuke: "I wonder where could the ghosts possibly be."

Angelica murmured as I casted the barrier on her.

Keisuke: "We went around and looked for it the whole day, but we couldn't find even one of them. I'm concerned with their destination."

Angelica: "I now realize my lack of ability…"

Keisuke: "It couldn't possibly be your fault. Something is wrong."

Angelica's *Perception* could sniff out Ayako-chan's wickedness from hundreds of meters away.

The range and accuracy of her skill was perfect. Yet even an expert like her couldn't find at least one of them after searching downtown.

Even ghosts should have a blind spot.

If it's hiding inside a building, how could they precisely and repeatedly keep their distance from Angelica who was walking outside?

Did they perhaps manage to figure out our strategy?

For example, they're watching our moves from somewhere, and then they use telepathy to inform their friends about it.

If that's the case, the moment Angelica approached them, they could run away with some time to spare.

But how?

If the ghost is looking over us within Angelica's *Perception* radius, she would've sensed and found them.

Or perhaps they're monitoring us from a great distance and tell their friends about our movement?

…doesn't seem possible. I've never heard of a ghost that had great vision range. As far as I know, their vision is even worse than humans'.

Did they perhaps possess something with great sight and monitor us from far away?

No, that's also impossible.

The ghosts from the other world couldn't possess anything other than those of the similar race.

Suppose they possess a bird, then the ghost possessing that bird could only be the spirit of a bird.

These bird spirits wouldn't have the intelligence for a telepathic communication, so they aren't fit for monitoring.

I also don't think they could use surveillance cameras or a listening device.

But if they had managed to learn enough about modern knowledge and prepared enough money, they could have bought a small listening device.

Supposing, that it decides to put that listening device on Angelica's clothing, they'd be attaching it to Angelica's Sacred Maiden outfit.

After I cast the Sacred Circle and the ghosts couldn't get close to her anymore, she's now wearing a modern Japanese clothing down to her underwear.

I'm confident that they didn't bug her clothes.

So what sort of tricks are they using?

As nothing but question marks fill my head, I finished casting the barrier.

Keisuke: "Okay. Now the area around you would be a safe zone."

Angelica: "I'm really grateful. You said some pretty heartless tings earlier, so you need to give me extra care, right? There will be more than just this, right?"

Keisuke: "Uu… I guess."

I flinched even while I was thinking.

A safe zone… ah, right. They're hiding somewhere safe and hard to find.

They hid in a place where they can monitor us without being detected by Angelica's *Perception*.

Where could that possibly be?

If they possess something or someone and they get detected, it'll be over for them.

What could possibly be a place advantageous only to them?

I might have overlooked some things.

In times like these, I should start thinking in their perspective.

A way to defeat the hero Nakamoto Keisuke from the perspective of the ghosts.

I had an absolute status that I'm proud of, so they couldn't win in a head-on fight with me.

The best method would probably be to directly control me, but that wouldn't be possible because of my Magical Defense.

The usual pattern to obtain victory with these ghosts is to "directly control the target and make them commit die".

That's the best, smartest way. It's time efficient and it deals the most damage to the enemy lines.

That's right.

Ghosts always thought of a way to use their enemies.

The more powerful and influential the enemies are, the stronger and the more influential the ghosts can become.

That was why they possessed Angelica, who had decent status and overwhelming beauty.

Aside from combat power appearances were also considered in the matter of the target selection for possession.

Then why was Gondou possessed?

Perhaps it was because he was considered a "powerful" person in the modern world.

There aren't any other people who possesses bladed weapons or firearms like a Yakuza could.

Not to mention, he can get access to Rio, who looks exactly like Elza, so of course they would think Gondou is a convenient target.

If they used Rio as a hostage, I would probably be shaken.

…hostage.

That's the thing I don't like the most.

Given that they have provided me a beautiful virgin, they had simply expected me to be moved by emotions.

That's why they used Angelica. This is my newfound weakness.

If I were to be my enemies, I would be using that weakness.

But how?

They used Angelica, who carried them over.

…What was behind that?

The means to be taken from the characteristics of the ghosts and the girl that I always kept by my side…

Keisuke: "…there is. There is one."

Angelica: "Dad?"

Keisuke: "If it's *that way*, they can monitor us in detail, and they can get past my *Sacred Circle*."

What is it all of a sudden? Angelica peered at my face.

Keisuke: "It's simple. Why didn't I notice it. Even if the evil spirits can't get closer to Ange's *surroundings*, there's no problem if it's *within* Ange. That's not a place that are protected by the barrier. It's like the eye of the storm. If the ghost had already hid itself before the barrier is erected, it turned into a safe monitoring spot. The *Perception* spell also monitors your surroundings and not including within you, so Ange's skill couldn't find anything."

Angelica: "What does that mean?"

Listen here, I continued,

Keisuke: “Aren’t there still some ghost inside you?”

Angelica’s movement stopped.

Angelica: “…still?”

Keisuke: “Yeah. There are some that doesn’t exit your body. They act as a monitor, staying within you. If this is the case then they can somewhat do it. They can monitor us one-sidedly all they want.”

It’s been a several days since Angelica was last possessed, and she can now control her body.

But even then, the ghost can stay within her body and give instructions to their fellow ghosts by telepathy.

Keisuke: “Do you want me to try dispelling it? If nothing comes out, then my guess will is wrong.”

Angelica: “P-Please. I don’t want some weird things to lurk inside of me. Do it quickly if you can.”

I collected mana on the tip of my finger and pressed it onto Angelica’s forehead.

Keisuke: “*Dispel.*”

The moment I chanted, a dazzling light were emitted, and the barrier magic I put up started to come undone.

As it did, the sanctuary that wraps Angelica erases the darkness of the night.

Next.

If the next step brings about any changes, then that would mean—

CHAPTER 27
UNIQUE SKILL: PATERNITY

Wraith: “GYAHAHAHAHAHAHAHAHA! CORRECT. ANSWER!”

Laughing loudly, the ghost showed itself.

The ghost exited from Angelica’s back, looking like a white smoke.

Or rather, it looked like when you sighed during the peak of winter.

It was as if it was wrapping Angelica, but then it spreads out.

Before long, it collects itself to a place and turned into a shape of a largely built man.

His upper body was muscular, but his lower body was just a pile of smoke.

Judging by his outer appearance, he looks more like a Djinn than a ghost.

There were just holes in the place of his eyes and nose, while only his mouth is uncannily look like human’s.

He’s a spirit that can show itself, and judging by that appearance, it could only mean one thing.

Keisuke: “Wraith, huh?”

Wraiths are magicians who failed in their attempts on an out-of-body experience and turned into evil spirits.

What that means is that it’s closer to a living spirit rather than an undead.

They properly had the ego of a human, so there’s nothing to criticize it from being the leader of the group of evil spirits.

Wraith: “I’m kinda relieved, Hero-sama. You aren’t incompetent, are ya? I thought of killing yer wife and crippling ya but yer flirtin’ around with the Sacred Maiden aren’t ya? Or what, ya wanted a young second wife that it kills ya? Goddamn, heroes sure work differently. If ya change girls now and then yer making me some more trouble.”

If it’s just his mouth and tongue, he truly resembles a human.

He also talks precisely like a human trash.

As I glared at it, the Wraith circled around to Angelica’s back and crawled his fingers on her nape.

Wraith: “GYAHAHA! He’s angry! The hero’s angry! Ye’r dangerous aren’t ya! My tail’s still inside Angelica-chan ya’ know! If ya don’t wait till I came out completely, ya can’t dispel me ya’ know?”

It’s just as he said.

Until I can pull out the spiritual body that possessed her, I can’t attack him.

If I defeat it before it’s completely out, Angelica will be left with a psychic injury.

Despite my overwhelming combat power, I can’t do anything but to wait.

It’s vexing and irritating.

Even though I want to beat up this fool even if it’s a second earlier I can only hold my finger still and glare.

Looking at the helpless me, the wraith were brimming with joy that the corners of his mouth rose.

Angelica looked like she was about to fall over, even now.

With a quiet moan saying *Dad*, her knees were shaking.

Thanks to her upbringing in the temple, her status was high, but she doesn’t have any

combat experiences.

And also, she was afraid.

She was frightened that an evil spirit is clinging onto her.

I can feel my emotions bubbling.

My rage builds up, passing the point of anger and going directly into the territory of killing intent.

What the fuck do this bastard think he's doing to my daughter? Why am I standing like this? What am I doing?

I was so consumed with anger that I forgot the situation.

I can't hold it, I want to pounce and kill this fool. Yet that wish of mine can't come true.

If it gets this painful, then I think I would rather forget everything and go all out.

But if I do that, I won't be able to save Angelica.

I want to properly save her, so I have to hold on from saving her right now.

Wraith: "Well, I finally got my tail out. My bad, keepin' ya' waitin'. By the way, I managed to come out, but I've firmly secured Angelica-chan though."

All the while I waited for the wraith's tail to come out, he had completely dug his claw of his right hand into Angelica's throat.

Wraith: "Huuh? Hero-sama, you've been cornered haven't ya? Can you just shoot me with that stupid power of yours?"

Keisuke: "Planning to take hostage, huh? Stop that. You'll just worsen the method of me killing you."

Wraith: "Yer sayin that to an undead? I'm dead already though! I ain't got no body to return to no more! Gyahaha! While I was out from my body, it turned rotten already! What worse way of dying are ya talkin' about? Hmm… how about getting stabbed

along with a kid by my beloved Hero-sama? Oh my bad, that's how Elza died!"

How much of an unrefined and displeasing smile can this evil spirit show?

He's crude, sadistic, and annoying. I know the typical personality of wraiths.

If I gotta hear more than this, I'm going to snap.

I closed my eyes and activated my skill.

To make sure the wraith doesn't hurt Angelica, I obediently seek for its attention.

To pull Angelica away from the wraith, I jumped at high speed and stabbed at him with the *Holy Sword* skill.

I have a way to do those two contradictory actions simultaneously.

<Hero, **Keisuke**'s used **2,000** MP. *Double Action* skill activated>

<For 180 seconds, it is possible to conduct two actions in one turn>

Wraith: "Huh…? Don't you fucking move. But what's with that eyes of yours. You did something, didn't ya?"

I have no obligations to answer. I just need to stand still and shut my mouth.

While I did that, an invisible me will take care of everything.

Wraith: "It's that, innit? I know about yer tricks ya' know."

Keisuke: "?"

Wraith: "Ya think yer gonna heal the hostage after ya stab me along with her, right? Ya think she'll just hafta hold on from the pain and yer gonna win or somethin' like that, eh?"

While guessing wrongly, he kept rattling on, and the wraith's body emits light…

At the same time, Angelica's expression stiffened.

Wraith: "Hyahha! For having such a dangerous papa, here's a present of the *State of Dismay*!"

State of Dismay.

It's a debuff that decreases the fighting spirit by making the target feel fear and agony more easily.

That means if someone was inflicted with it—they will feel pain several times higher than usual.

It's a skill undeads like to use.

Wraith: "Try stabbing me along with her, come on, try me! Angelica's now super sensitive so if you try and do that she'll probably go crazy! But that's fine, innit? Yer gonna get a broken doll, ya' know? Then I'll be having fun too, so go ahead and do it, Hero-sama."

Keisuke: "…It'll be funny if you misunderstand this far."

Here, the skill procedure is almost finished.

You'll be taken down by the choice I didn't choose.

The choice to "Prioritize attacking the wraith and not the hostage".

The me who is not me will end everything.

That was what I thought.

Keisuke: "…?"

Something's off.

I realized that the situation turned strange.

It's too late.

Normally at this point, the two actions would have been conducted some time ago.

If so, then why?

Keisuke: "I see."

I could think of one thing.

Keisuke: "You also had *Double Actions*, huh."

Wraith: "Bingo. The other "us" are going at each other right now. Oh, some memories are comin' up to me."

We both used *Double Action* and we we canceled each other off beyond causality.

There was the me who stood still in front of me and the wraith that was seizing Ange.

There was the me who launched a surprised attack at the wraith, and the wraith that intercepted that attack.

With this combination if a fight broke out, the result would be "nothing".

But at the same time, I also recognized the violent exchange that was unfolding, and they were flowing into my brain.

…He's strong.

This would be the first time I confronted a spiritual body in this world.

Wraith: "We ain't even moving at all though, right, Hero-sama? Don't be sneaky won't ya? That's one penalty for ya alright? With that, I'll be cutting Angelica-chan's ski~n. Gyahahaha! This is yer fault okay!"

Keisuke: “Stop it. No matter what you do you know you’ll always be killed too!”

Wraith: “Huh? Did’ya hear that, Angelica-chan? He said “too”, ya’ hear? Hyahaha! The hero is different than the one from the stories! The daughter that can feel super pain is gonna get involved in the stabbing! Gyahahahaha!”

The wraith bends backwards as he laughed mockingly.

It seems like it wanted to say it’s so fun he couldn’t help it.

Angelica: “Dad, I’ll be okay…”

Even as tears flows down from both of her eyes, Angelica conducted herself bravely.

In the *State of Dismay*, it’s even easier to feel fear, and despite that, Angelica still worries about me.

She’s a really good girl. She’s truly a waste on me.

Why did they send such a good girl to me?

Even though if she didn’t come to me, she could’ve lived a calm life.

I would like to at least dispel the *State of Dismay*, but I couldn’t lift even a finger.

Because of the *Double Action* surprise attack earlier, the wraith is in full alert.

This time, he might really hurt Angelica.

The Angelica who is now very sensitive to pain and fear.

But if I kept doing nothing, he will start tormenting Angelica.

What do I do?

Maybe it’s better for me to really stab at the wraith through Angelica.

And then I'll heal Angelica's wound.

Rather than making her suffer for so long, it would be better to deliver an acute pain and quickly put an end to it since it would shorten the pain.

As I prepared my attack, the wraith opened its mouth.

Wraith: "Aah wait, wait. I'm gonna stop. I forgot that she's a Sacred Maiden. She'd probably gone through some of these masochistic ascetic practices. She probably could stand the pain. Ain't gonna cut her skin. I changed my mind, so you don't hafta move. Yeah that's right, lower yer hands."

I don't know what he's thinking, but I have to make sure Angelica doesn't suffer first.

I looked at the wraith's hollow eyes and spoke.

Keisuke: "What, are you planning to negotiate?"

The wraith put his claws on Angelica's cheek as he broadly grinned.

Wraith: "Naaw~ We evil spirits are, ya know, beings that feed on human's fear and agony. I can feel full if I can feed on some despair. Those things are delicious, and those things fix my condition. I'm thinking that I wanna have some more taste of that."

He's tantalizing. Is he planning to draw this out?

I couldn't read his thoughts.

Wraith: "I've thought of a way to give this Sacred Maiden Angelica-chan more fear rather than with external wounds."

Anything is fine. My priority is to avoid Angelica getting injured.

The *State of Dismay* debuff doesn't last that long.

I just need to wait until it runs out.

The moment her sense of pain returns to normal, I will pierce the wraith through Angelica.

This is the best choice I have… I need to apologize to Angelica later.

Even if I say I will heal her wounds with magic, having your parent drill a hole through you would be the worst experience.

Wraith: “There are some type of people who are weaker on the inside rather than being clawed, ya’ see. Angelica-chan looked like she does don’t ya think?”

Keisuke: “What are you trying to say?”

The wraith questioned me, looking like he remembered something pleasant.

If I follow through with his rants, I could buy some time until the debuff expires.

As I waited for the wraith to open his mouth again, he pleasantly, very pleasantly said,

Wraith: “Spirits like me controlled Angelica-chan’s body ya’ know? For almost a week, even. D’ya think we handled her normally?”

Keisuke: “So what?”

Wraith: “We could’ve done a lot in a week ya’ know? Kill someone, steal some things, or sell her body for example. The pure, pure Sacred Maiden-chan was tainted～”

…I don’t particularly care either way.

As long as it wasn’t Angelica’s intention, it’s not her fault.

But will she be okay? I slowly turned my eyes toward her.

Angelica: “…U, u…”

Keisuke: “Ange…”

Angelica: "…U…"

I vowed to fulfill the role of the girl's father, but now, tears are streaming down from both of her eyes.

Even though she showed me her bravery.

Even though she could withstood against the assault of fear and pain.

The method to break her will.

A method other than physical torture, against the girl who longed for romance, yet sung as the eternal virgin.

And that method… is this.

A lowly strategy befitting the name of an evil spirit. He's shaking her spirit to induce disturbance within her.

No matter if we win or we lose, she will end up feeling awful; a method of monstrous characteristics.

But this is meaningless.

Are you an idiot? Do you think it would work on me?

Wraith: "Aaahh, what do we do, Hero-sama? You just got yourself a young virgin girl and you were so excited about it though riiight? So is there even any value in being crazy about protecting this girl? She's defiled ya' know? She lost her value, don't she? If ya listen ta' what I say for a bit, I can prepare a brand new Sacred Maiden for ya, how 'bout that?"

If I listen to what you say? So this wraith came to this world to get me to do something?

They didn't plan to kill me, but instead they demand something from me.

Just for that one stupid thing, you're acting inhumanely?

You can just kill me if you like, but instead you went out of your way to use Angelica too?

Wraith: “Whaddya do, Hero? Huh? Ain’t I in a bad spot? I just told you that the hostage had no value. This ain’t good. But ya’ know, I feel better now after suckin’ on Angelica-chan’s fear and despair. Oy oy, if I fight you now I’ll win, won’t I? Well, well?”

Whaddya say, Hero? The wraith showed that warped smile of his again.

What do *I* say? I’ve got my answer already.

Keisuke: “Let go of Angelica, stat. Get the fuck away from my sight. I don’t need other maidens. If you don’t obey me I’ll use a crude method and erase you.”

Wraith: “Haa~? I don’t get what you’re tryna say. My bad, can ya say it one more time? Whaddya want me do with this secondhand brat?”

Keisuke: “I’m telling you to let her the fuck go, you piece of soul! Do you see a horn growing out of my forehead? My class is *Hero*, not *Unicorn*! You’re saying she’s lost her purity? Then what of it? I’m not one to be torn by the trivial things like that!”

I’m not her lover. I’m her father.

Even if my daughter is defiled, even if she’s fallen down low, or even if she grew into delinquency, I will continue protecting her as her father.

You think I’m going to love her just because she’s pretty? Leave that to a knight in shining armor somewhere.

I’m just an old man riding an ass, but I’ll never come to hate my daughter.

A father is the last lifeline of his daughter; the one man that will never betray her.

Angelica had no other people she could call her father, so I need to be that man.

I want to get this over with and bring Angelica home.

I don’t need to think about anything else.

Angelica's *State of Dismay* should expire soon.

If her sense of fear and pain had returned, I could use the strategy that involved the hostage.

I will deliver the attack, but the pain won't be so bad that it breaks her mind.

Besides, once someone is hit by a debuff, they will build up a resistance against it for a day.

Angelica won't be affected by the debuff anymore.

If I stopped on my tracks in the middle of this hostage strategy, I'd lose.

Wraith: "You can't do that, hero. Somethin's wrong with yer head. Or prolly because of Elza's slavery you're heated up and started liking somewhat dirty girls like her?"

Angelica's expression eased.

The *State of Dismay* had expired.

I took a step forward.

Wraith: "I get it, I get it. I know you like secondhand goods, so don't move. If that's so then you still feel some value from this hostage, don't ya? Hihi! Ain't that great, Angelica-chan! Your father's head over heels for ya, ain't he? See, if I cut ya like this, how would you reaaAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAACT!"

Keisuke: "Let her go, else you'll die."

Wraith: "HYAHHAAAAAAAAAAAAAA!"

Along with the wraith's scream, a red line ran through Angelica's nape. It was a scratch wound.

His claws scratched her skin, even just for a bit.

It’s not life threatening.

Was it meant to be some sort of warning?Maybe it’s a signal saying that i*f you get any closer, I will inflict a more serious injury.*

But that wound the thickness of a strand of hair shall be this bastard’s cause of death.

Keisuke: “I told you to let her the fuck go. Now that you went that far, you can’t stop me anymore. It’s going to be hard for me to hold back my attacks. I’m not doing this because I like it, you understand?”

Wraith: “Hah?”

In front of my eyes, countless system messages appeared, flowing in a rapid pace.

<Hero **Keisuke** confirmed sighting of injury to younger party member>

<Unique Skill: “*Paternity*” has been activated>

<Status and Skill will receive a boost for 180 seconds and all Status Ailments would be nullified.>

<HP **+ 1,000%>**

<MP **+ 1,000%>**

<ATK **+ 1,000%>**

<DEF **+ 1,000%>**

<AGI **+ 1,000%>**

<MATK **+ 1,000%>**

<MDEF **+ 1,000%>**

<Skill Amplification **×10>**

I hope I don’t wreck this park.

That's what I was worried about right now.

<Hero **Keisuke**'s used **2,000** MP. "*Double Action*" skill activated>

<Unique Skill: *"Paternity"* is in effect; skill amplified by 10-fold>

<For 1,800 seconds, it is possible to conduct eleven actions in one turn>

The skill increases your action count by one so normally it would be two actions. If it's multiplied ten-fold, the number of actions is increased by ten

In total, there are eleven alternatives that I can conduct at the same time.

The wraith's *Double Action* couldn't possibly deal with it.

Keisuke: "Well, I just don't want to make Ange feel pain, so it's probably fine."

As I said that, the law of the world bends in accordance to the skill.

◊ ◊ ◊

I stood still to gain the attention of the wraith.

I casted a strengthening spell on myself.

I jumped to the wraith's chest and pierced it with the Sword of Light and took Angelica away.

I healed Angelica's wound on her nape.

I carried Angelica and brought her to the front of our apartment.

I planted the wraith to the ground with my Sword of Light.

I held the hilt of the Sword of Light that drilled the wraith into the ground and pushe dit deeper.

I casted a poison spell, amplified tenfold, onto the wraith.

I severed the wraith's right arm.

I severed the wraith's left arm.

I stabbed the Sword of Light into the cross-section of his severed arms.

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I was standing still the whole time, but the wraith's body was flung back five meters and driven into the ground by the Sword of Light. He lost both arms and he was unable to move.

Just like a specimen of insect.

After a while, the memories of the eleven actions came rushing into me.

It feels like I've gone through space and time and forcefully distorted fate itself.

Wraith: "…A?"

Despite its lack of eyes, it still skillfully showed a “strange expression”.

While his face lacked some parts, perhaps it has that special skill to be able to show such expression.

Wraith: “… Aa? What did you do?”

With a glowing blade stabbed into his stomach, the wraith was flabbergasted.

He still hasn’t noticed what had happened, and perhaps that’s why the pain hasn’t come through him yet.

Some people said that when some soldiers are too concentrated in fighting, they couldn’t notice their arms from their elbow had been cut off.

Ignorance is bliss.

That’s why I decided to tell him.

Keisuke: “You’ve been stabbed. You’ve done some stupid harassment to someone’s daughter, so I skewered you and cut your arms off. Do you get it?”

Finally.

The face of the wraith that realized his situation finally warped.

Wraith: “HIGI…!”

The Swords of Light created by the *Sacred Sword* skill carries a special effect against ghosts, demons, and undeads.

Wraiths are included in the category of both undeads and ghosts, so the effect is doubled. The agony should be unimaginable.

Wraith: “GYAAAAAAAAAAAAAAA!!!”

His scream feels like it's about to burst my ears.

I should quickly wring out any information he has and finish him off.

Keisuke: "Piece of soul, what do you know? Is this really the doings of the Head Priest?"

Wraith: "…Hihihi, go die, go fucking die…"

I stabbed two more swords of light on him.

I accurately aimed for both of his eyes and the sword penetrated through and drilled into the pavement of the park.

Wraith: "GAGYAA!"

Keisuke: "Choose your words. Do you want me to do it ten more times in succession? You knew I won't hold back if my enemy is not human, don't you?"

I prepared to cast the *Dismay* spell.

I'll inquire him with the same spell he cast on Angelica, but this time, ten-fold.

The most effective attacks against spiritual beings those with Holy attribute or spiritual attacks.

Attacks that could gave it the agony to turn it insane or make it lose its mind would be great.

I bet he'll disappear as he suffers in agony.

Keisuke: "You understand the power of this spell, don't you? You thoroughly got us with this, huh?"

Wraith: "W-wait, wait wait! I didn't do it! I didn't do anything to that Sacred Maiden! Her Magical Defense was too high, so just controlling her was too tough! It's true! She's still pure! Besides, when she was possessed, I was the personality that became her, you know? A man like me wouldn't possibly sell my body to another man!"

Keisuke: "And?"

Wraith: “You were concerned about that, right? That’s why save me… heal me… heal me… it hurts… it was poison, wasn’t it? This is poison, isn’t it? It’s not normal. What the fuck is this… *cough, cough-cough, COUGH!*”

Keisuke: “Well, that’s a poison concentrated ten times over after all.”

I continued my questioning as I twisted the Sword of Light stabbed on his guts.

Keisuke: “Is this the action of the Head Priest?”

Wraith: “That’s right… hey… quickly detoxify me… ga-ga, a-ga-ga-ga… detox…!”

Keisuke: “Why?”

Wraith: “…Gihi… You! Because you’ve gotten too strong! They thought one day you’d retaliate! Lots of ’em were afraid of you! The top brass too! After you sacrificed Elza and that brat… they resented you, thinking you’ll be able to freely do anything you want…”

Nonsense.

I spat out as I kicked his face.

Keisuke: “Were you planning to kill me?”

Wraith: “…if, if possible… if that’s not possible, we’re instructed to take the Sacred Maiden as a hostage to turn you obedient…”

The people I saved feared and ostracized me. That’s what heroes are.

Just a dog. And I was passed my expiry date.

Wraith: “…I’ve told you… right? The detox… quick…”

Won’t it leave a better taste in my mouth if I showed some mercy?

With that judgment, I removed the poison.

The wraith smiled in satisfaction and raised its neck.

Wraith: “Ahi, ahihihi. Ye’r really a hero… how compassionate… hihi, hihihihi.”

I know he’s planning something.

Well, for the spirit army, there would be one action to take.

Call in his friends.

Wraith: “Don’t get full of yerself after you’ve done A GOOD DEEEEEEEED!! GYA~ HAHHAHHAHHAHHAAAAAA!”

Where would they be coming from? The spirits are being attracted by the wraith’s body.

They came together with this guy from the other world. Those are the spirits I’ve been looking for.

The spiritual bodies gathered, sticking onto each other into one.

The fact that the wraith was blabbering on earlier might be because he was trying to buy himself some time.

His friends had all gathered together and prepared for combat.

Wraith: “If I just remove the poison, I ain’t gonna be losin’! I’ll be killin’ ya now.”

Now, the wraith had swollen up three times his previous size.

The arms that I cut off grew back, showing even more burly muscles than before.

Keisuke: “Did you absorb every spirits you brought with you?”

Wraith: “Duh! Thanks to that, I’m at my most powerful mode! Die together with the maidennn!!!”

I blocked his fist with my Sword of Light.

Keisuke: “That so. Then if I kill you, I’ll be done with everyone, yeah? I didn’t think I’d be giving my all on earth of all places.”

Wraith: “Huh?”

—*Undecuple Action.*

I cast a materialization spell on the wraith that was anchored with the Sacred Sword. It’s a debuff that allows the spiritual body to be vulnerable to all types of physical damages.

I struck the wraith to the ground. The road cracked and his body was crushed.

I ran while I kept pressing the wraith’s squashed face into the road.

With a roaring sound, I shaved his face off.

The damaged wraith jumped back up on his feet. He went as far as the stratosphere and returned flaming red from the friction of re-entry.

With the amplified reinforcement I casted upon myself, I defended my whole body. I could definitely withstand the heat and impact.

I leaped and pursued him. I could feel the wall of air behind me going *BOOM!.* It seems like I’ve surpassed the speed of sound.

I seized the wraith that started to look more like a comet.

I tore the body I seized into two; the upper body and the lower body. The latter caught on fire and burned itself into a scorching gas.

Everything ended in an instant.

Wraith: “GEAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAHHH!?”

Just like that, me and the wraith are descending to the ground.

I chose the location.

A mountain.

In the uninhabited hills, I slammed the wraith down, making a crater and shaking the trees.

The wraith had nothing left below his neck. The core of these ghosts are the head. If I destroy this, they won't resurrect anymore.

I strengthened my grip on the bastard's head as I cast a whole lot of debuffs on him.

Lethal Poison, Paralysis, Blindness, Panic, Hex.

I casted everything I could think of that could weaken him against agony.

Wraith: "GYAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAA!!!"

The wraith spasmed as he shrieked.

Wraith: "N, no… this world don't have no heaven or hell! If a spirit's HP drops to zero they'll vanish!"

Isn't that nice then. Having eternal life after death isn't anything good anyways.

My country makes a beauty of honorable deaths.

Probably you won't understand, given you're no more than just a cloud from another world.

Wraith: "AAAAAAAAAAAAHH! NOO! NO NO NO NO! I DON'T WANNA DISAPPEARRR!"

The wraith that only had its face left begged as a cracking sound could be heard.

Wraith: "Just five minutes, no just a minute! One minute's enough, let me live! I don't

wanna go, I don't wanna go! AAAAHH! DON'T ERASE ME! NOOOOOOOOO!!!!"

You tried to make a pass on a girl in front of her father.

This is what you deserve for it.

A father would become a demon or the devil if it's for his child. Don't tell me you never knew about this?

Wraith: "A, aa… I became a wraith because I wanted an eternal life… aa… stop… stop it…"

Crash.

With a dry sound, the wraith's core shattered.

Wraith: "AAAAAAAHHHHHHHH! NNNNOOOOO!! I DON'T… WANNA… GOOOOOOoooo…"

The wraith dissolved into the air like a fog.

As if it wasn't there in the first place.

As if there was nothing there.

The foreign being that doesn't follow this planet's rule of physics disappeared with an agonizing death.

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I returned to the apartment.

Police patrol cars had already gathered, making a ruckus regarding the body that was found.

Angelica sat on the corner of the staircase, but no one paid any attention to her.

We still had the concealment spell cast on us.

That's why no one could find us.

Angelica stood up and staggered her way to my front.

Angelica: "Dad…"

It was dark so I couldn't really tell, but I was sure she just cried her eyes out.

The lights from the patrol car allowed me to steal some glances.

Her eyes were swollen and bloodshot, and there were some dried tears.

Angelica: "You can hate me, you know."

Keisuke: "Ange…?"

Angelica: "That ghost told you, didn't he? He did strange things to my body, right? Isn't my body defiled now? You'd be disgusted by me, right?"

Keisuke: "There's no way that's true."

That was just his bluff. He was just planning to put her through a mental anguish to increase their power.

He's just randomly spouting nonsense.

I need to tell her that quickly.

Angelica: "If you think about it… in the first place, I… I'm probably indecent? I was just like that right from the start. Dad might be better off with that Rioq girl. She looked exactly like Elza-san, didn't she?"

<**Nakamoto Keisuke** won the battle!>

<Obtained **30,000 EXP**>

<Obtained **1,500 Skill Points**>

<Unique Skill: "*Paternity*" has been upgraded>

<Party Member: **Angelica**'s emotion of "*Sympathy*" and "*Attachment*" toward **Nakamoto Keisuke** has been changed to "*Trust*" and "*Love*">

<**Angelica**'s *favorability point* is increased by **9999**>

<**Angelica**'s *favorability point* limit has been broken>

Angelica is urging me to come to like some girls other than her.

It's the exact same thing I kept telling her; *think of me as worthless and find another partner.*

Good grief. How similar can we be.

Your affection for me has gotten to a crazy level.

And despite that, you still force yourself to tell me that "it's okay for you to hate me".

Keisuke: "Your face is a mess. I can only see that you're just faking it. Let's go home, alright?"

Angelica: "Uuuu—…"

I pet her head.

<**Angelica**'s physical analysis is complete. She is 100% confirmed to have maintained her chastity>

<**Inform the concerned person promptly**>

<**Inform the concerned person promptly**>

<**Inform the concerned person promptly**>

What's going on here. The System Message is awfully thoughtful today. As I thought of it, the message keeps repeating itself.

Keisuke: “Ange, I can see the system messages in my field of vision. It’s a special privilege of the summoned hero, you see. This thing will never lie to me. It always told me the truth to a mechanical level.”

Angelica: “…She’s-tum mass-saij?”

Keisuke: “That thing has been saying non-stop that your body hasn’t been defiled. It’s true. They didn’t do anything to your body. It was all just that vulgar spirit’s empty threats. He was aiming to shake up your spirit and feed on your pain.”

Angelica: “…aren’t you just trying to console me…?”

Keisuke: “Of course not.”

<**Angelica**‘s *Favorability Points* reached a level where *non-consensual sexual actions* will be rendered *consensual* on the way.>

<Do you proceed?>

<If proceeded, there is a constant probability of conceiving>

<The child conceived would gain combined status pattern of both parents; some skills would be inherited, and equipment and item sharing is possible>

<Assignment of child’s class is also possible>

You’re saying some crazy things, you know that?

They’re messed up, a lot of them.

I closed the window while being exasperated and I took Angelica’s hand.

Keisuke: “Let’s go back to the room… Its probably going to be chaotic with people asking me about the old man, but after that’s done, let’s have dinner and go to sleep.”

Angelica: “… mm.”

While sniffling her nose, Angelica followed after me.

With metallic noises, we climbed the rustey staircase.

Angelica: “Dad… Is it really true that nothing has been done to my body?”

Keisuke: “Do you still have some doubts?”

Angelica: “…I can’t tell until you can actually confirm it.”

Keisuke: “Hm?”

Angelica: “Please confirm it.”

Keisuke: “Do you even know what you’re talking about?”

Angelica: “…I want to do it, with dad.”

As I told her *It’s still too early for you*, we arrived in front of the entrance.

I opened the lock.

Angelica: “I’ll definitely be dad’s wife, okay!”

Keisuke: “You’ve been saying some crazy stuff since earlier, aren’t you embarrassed?”

Angelica: “I don’t know. Maybe I’m in a stupor. I love dad so much that I think my brain is melting.”

She managed to recover from her mental shock, but she started giving me statements that are more dangerous than earlier. Along with Angelica who was being like that, I uttered, “I’m back.”

CHAPTER 28
RESTART

After I defeated the wraith, there weren't any other uproar about ghosts anymore.

The town thoroughly turned into a peaceful town. Me, on the other hand, I'm busy as always.

Angelica: "Daddy! You're playing with the computer again!"

Keisuke: "No… I've got a lot of things to do. Like looking for something for example."

After I enlightened the landlord and the police about the situation, we temporarily had nothing to do.

Too many things happened and because of that I was tired. I wanted to rest for a while.

The next morning, I turned on the TV and absentmindedly watched the news, and as it turned out, I appeared in it.

The video of me fighting the wraith in the sky was reported as a meteor impact or some sort of UFO uproar.

The location of the filming is probably the mountain where I slammed the wraith down.

I was sure the place was uninhabited, but it looks like there was a group of people camping for an astronomical observation.

…thank goodness I didn't get them involved.

I'm glad there aren't any injuries, but there was a perfect shot of me.

Thanks to the flaming wraith, my face was illuminated, and the shot clearly showed who it was.

So concealment Magic could deceive human eyes and ears, but machines can see through it normally, huh. Seriously?

I was struck by the revelation about the spell, and some days later I was overwhelmed by interviews.

While I was looking for excuses in the middle of the confusion, they arbitrarily affixed the nickname “UFO Ojisan” and instantly became the man of the moment.

Somehow in the end the world just accepted me as a magician and calmed down.

Magic tricks.

Magic tricks, huh…

Ah well.

When I get on TV, I showed how I pull out a sword of light from my palm or durably walk on top of fire, and I spent several days earning money.

I managed to rake up nearly a million in cash within two weeks.

Even now I’m getting more and more jobs.

Keisuke: “I’m fed up with this job, so I’m going to quit.”

When I told the shop manager that, he said “people like you are just gonna be famous for a moment and disappear after that”, nagging with veins popping on his head.

Probably leaving Rio and Angelica to stand outside the store didn’t help as well.

Angelica: “Daaddyy! Let’s get out of here, it stinks!”

Angelica who wasn’t used to the smell of pork belly and bones naturally complained,

Rio: “There’s a lot of people who looked like Gondou loitering out here, what’s with that?”

Meanwhile, Rio said that, feeling curious while tampering with her phone.

So Gondou is still telling his guys to keep doing that sincerely, huh. I gotta tell him that it’s okay not to do that anymore.

Store Manager: “People like you should just lay your hands on those high school girls and get arrested!”

As I listened to the store manager’s angry shout that sounds like he’s about to cry, I left the store.

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I showed up to the Ootsuki antiquarian bookstore from time to time.

I mean, I need to collect some books about modern Japan to help Angelica learn.

…this place is the cheapest alternative. The assortment of books are also nice.

I couldn’t help but to feel scared whenever I encountered Ayako-chan though.

The impact I had to face when me and Angelica entered the store was tremendous.

But sacrifices had to be made.

Angelica: “What are you looking for with the computer?”

Keisuke: “A property.”

My current objective is to move out.

To compensate for doubting Angelica and just to simply show my parental love, I’m planning to rent a two-room apartment.

Angelica too have to conduct prayers with discipline, so she wanted a quiet, dark private room for that.

It seems like Sacred Maidens are required to pray in a place that can't be seen by men once a day. It's such a bother.

Right now, she would usually pray reluctantly in the bathroom or the veranda while I was sleeping, so I thought I should do something about that.

Keisuke: "You wanted a place you can pray, right Ange? What do you say we move to a wider place to live? I'm looking around just for that."

Angelica: "Really? I want to live in Hotel Amaryllis."

That's a love hotel. You must not live there.

Keisuke: "Ange needs some privacy too, right? How about making the prayer room like your own room?"

Angelica: "Eeh? You don't need to do that."

Keisuke: "We can prepare two beds, and then we can bring one into the prayer room, so you can have your own bedroom. You're a girl after all, so you would hate it if you keep sleeping with me, right?"

Angelica: "One bed is enough… I don't want to have more than one bed."

There you go again saying such dangerous thing. Look, she even started thinking about weird things and turned red herself.

Feeling tired, I turned back to the computer and a window popped up on the corner of my vision.

<**Angelica**'s *sexual arousal* has reached **70%**>

<Requirements for *consensual sexual actions* met. Do you proceed?>

<If proceeded, there is a constant probability of conceiving>

<The child conceived would gain combined status pattern of both parents; some skills

would be inherited, and equipment and item sharing is possible>

<Assignment of child's class is also possible>

Like I said, why are you guiding me into laying my hands on a girl? I oddly thought.

I started doubting if this thing actually possess free will.

<Keisuke, try to get in a relationship with another person quickly.>

<Be happy, okay?>

Keisuke: "…huh?"

The finger I had on top of the mouse wheel trembled.

Keisuke: "El… za?"

Is that you?

Have you always been there…

Have you always been inside me the whole time?

You, who gave your life away… have been absorbed by me? Are you still watching over me?

Angelica: "Daddy? Listen, alright? There should absolutely just be one bed, alright? One. I won't forgive you if we separate our rooms."

Keisuke: "Aah…"

Expand your expectation toward the future of your new life while carrying on the memories of the past.

Under that complicated state of mind, I looked into the homepage of a real estate agency.

Angelica: “Dad…? Are you crying?”

Did you want us to sleep separately that bad!? Angelica’s shoulders who took on a big misunderstanding twitched.

Keisuke: “That’s not it, that’s not it, Ange. I’m crying because I’m so happy.”

Angelica: “Eeh? Hmm, tears of joy, is it? So you really like sleeping with me, don’t you dad?”

Elza… I’m doing my best over here.

I won’t abandon myself anymore. I’ll show you that I can relive my life.

I’m the hero after all.

PDF by: traitorAIZEN